

FOCAL POINTS

Vienna Photographic Society

DECEMBER, 2017

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Dec. 16 Party

Winter Lights

Bucket-list Gatorland

Nikon's Missing Women

**Free National Park
Vacation**



DECEMBER, 2017

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VPS is a member of



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

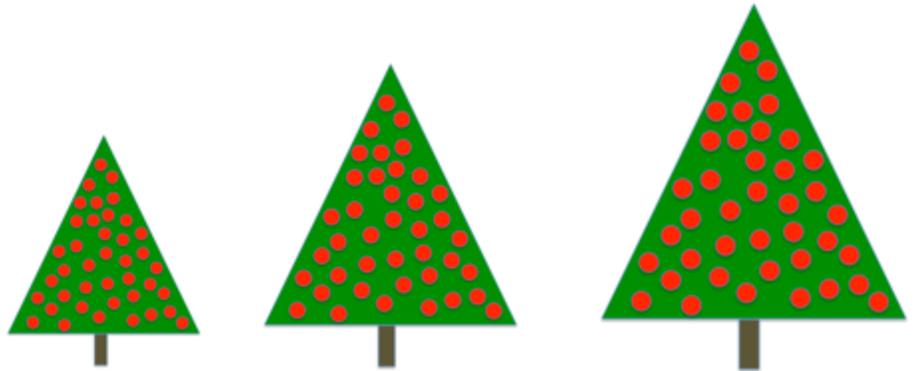
VPS meets the 1st, 3rd, & 4th Wednesdays, September through June at the Thoreau Middle School, Vienna, VA. Visitors are welcome. Please check VPS's calendar for details:

<https://www.VPSva.org>



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

VPS's holiday party is Sat., Dec. 16 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the lovely home of Rosie Smith and Jon Naman. \$10 per person admission includes ham, turkey, beer, wine and soft drinks. Please bring a *yummy* dish to share. For details & to RSVP, email Carol Carroll (csquared02 AT yahoo DOT com).



COVER PHOTOS:

Nature Visions Overall Winner and Bird Category Winner (3-way tie):
"Territorial Dispute," by **Kathrin Swoboda**

Wildlife Category Winner:
"Slow Motioner," by **Bill Mugg**

VPS's Entries into Nature Visions Photo Expo

Congratulation to **Kathrin Swoboda**, the grand prize winner of Nature Visions 2017. Her hummingbird photo, dubbed "Territorial Dispute," also won the Bird category in a three-way tie. **Bill Mugg's** black-and-white photo of a tortoise -- "Slow Motioner" -- captured first place in the Wildlife category. Their photos grace this month's "Focal Points" cover. But *all* VPS photographs were winners, just by getting juried into the expo. Here are the club's entries. Also, for the first time, Nature Visions has posted *ALL* 500 juried-in photos from the 8 sponsoring camera clubs on its website. Just click on:

<http://naturevisions.org/category/2017-news/>. If your photo didn't make it in this year, don't give up.

Start shooting now for the **Nov. 2-4, 2018** expo.

**Joan Axilbund
Mary Jane Fish
Harold Hanson
Robert Kelberg
Barbara Saffir**

**Gwen Bowden
Mort Friedman
Barbara Johnson
Bill Mugg
Lori Saunders**

**Paige Counts
Kathleen Furey
Robert Kelberg
John Padbury
Gloria Spellman**

**Patricia Deege
Janet Gelb
David Kepley
Mary Rabadan
Kathrin Swoboda**



Joan Axilbund



Joan Axilbund



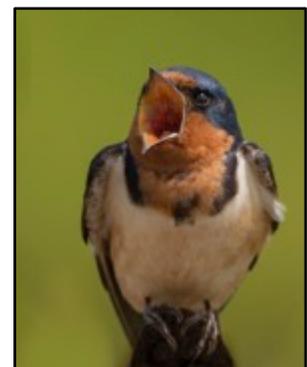
Joan Axilbund



Joan Axilbund



Barbara Saffir



Barbara Saffir



Kathrin Swoboda



Kathrin Swoboda



Kathrin Swoboda



Kathrin Swoboda



Kathrin Swoboda



Kathrin Swoboda



David Kepley



Kathleen Furey



Lori Saunders



Patricia Deege



Patricia Deege



Patricia Deege



David Kepley



Robert Kelberg



Barbara Johnson



Kathleen Furey



Mary Jane Fish



Bill Mugg



Lori Saunders



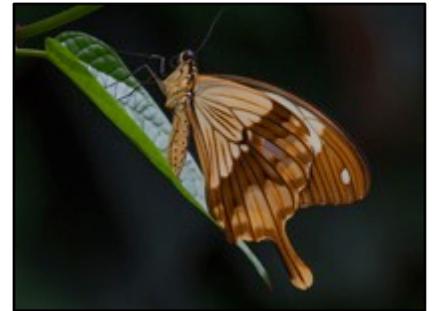
Bill Mugg



Janet Gelb



Gloria Spellman



Joan Axilbund



David Kepley



Barbara Saffir



Kathrin Swoboda



Bill Mugg



Morton Friedman



Barbara Saffir



Gloria Spellman



Bill Mugg



Morton Friedman



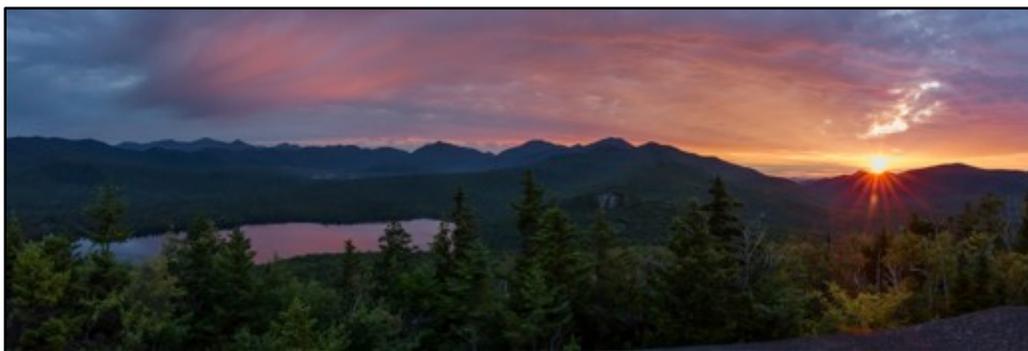
Kathleen Furey



John Padbury



Morton Friedman



Paige Counts



Gwen Bowden



Patricia Deege



Harold Hanson



Barbara Johnson



Barbara Johnson



David Kepley



David Kepley



Mary Rabadan



Bill Mugg



Kathleen Furey



Mary Rabadan



John Padbury



John Padbury



Gwen Bowden



John Padbury



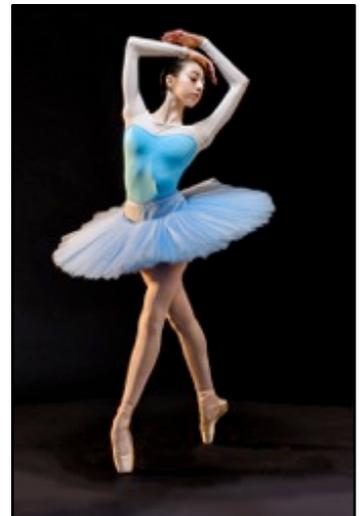
Morton Friedman



Kathrin Swoboda



Robert Kelberg



Gloria Spellman



NATURE VISIONS WRAP-UP

Links to Speakers for Tips, Classes, & Workshops

Nikhil Bahl

<http://www.nikhilbahl.com/>

Mark Buckler

<http://bucklerphoto.com/>

Dennis Govoni

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/dngovoni/>

Melissa Groo

<https://www.melissagroo.com/>

Bill Ingalls

<http://ingallsimages.squarespace.com/>

Matt Kloskowski

<https://mattk.com/>

Eileen Rafferty

<http://eileenrafferty.com/>

Roy Sewall

<http://www.roysewallphotography.com/>

Joe Subolefsky

<http://www.camocamera.com/>

Wayne Wolfersberger

<http://www.waynewolfersberger.com/>

Joe Brady

<http://www.joebradyphotography.com/>

Steve Gettle

<http://www.stevegettle.com/>

Tim Grey

<http://www.timgreyphoto.com/>

Corey Hilz

<https://www.coreyhilz.com/>

Marie Joabar

<http://capitalphotographycenter.com/>

Roman Kurywczak

<http://roaminwithroman.com/>

Don Rosenberger

<http://roadrunnerphotographytours.com/>

Denise Silva

<http://roadrunnerphotographytours.com/>

Joshua Taylor

<https://www.joshuataylorphotography.com/>

Brian Zwit

<http://www.brianjzwit.com/>

Nature Visions (#NVPE) Nov. 2-4, 2018

<http://naturevisions.org>

FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/NatureVisionsPhotoExpo/>

INSTAGRAM: <https://www.instagram.com/naturevisionsphotoexpo>

TWITTER: <https://twitter.com/NatureVisionsPE>

Dec. 6 Speaker: Barbara Saffir

Bucket-list Gatorland (Close-up Breeding Birds)

Thoreau Middle School, 7:30 p.m.



VPS member **Barbara Saffir** will speak about **Gatorland**, one of the best places in the country to photograph hundreds of colorful breeding birds and their babies close up. Saffir, a freelance author/writer who penned the *Walking Washington, DC* guidebook, photographed and videoed these big, boisterous birds when she wrote a travel story about Gatorland for the *Washington Post*.



She'll introduce you to the secret lives of some of the cutest couples on the planet as they woo each other and then labor to raise their young. You'll meet dinosaur-like Wood Storks, just off the endangered list; Tricolored and Blue Herons; three types of statuesque Egrets (whose breeding colors seem straight from the Sephora makeup counter); anhingas, cormorants, and other birds that nest at a natural rookery tucked away in this kitschy theme park. You'll even hear them "sing" and watch their eye-popping courtship "dances." And since the rookery's in a giant alligator pit, you'll also see some fearless egrets catching free rides on these massive beasts.



Saffir hopes her tips will help visitors enjoy the birds more and maybe even score a contest winner when they visit. Because every bird photographer simply has to add Gatorland to their bucket list.

<https://www.gatorland.com/public/experiences/photographers-pass/index.cfm>

https://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/travel/orlandos-gatorland-features-an-improbable-draw-for-birders/2015/04/16/ef5245e6-dd64-11e4-acfe-cd057abefa9a_story.html



Jan. 17, 2018 Competition

Judge: Greg Holden

Thoreau Middle School, 7:30 p.m.



Photography provides me with an artistic escape from my day job as an aerospace engineer. It is my way of sharing with others how I see the world around me. My photos are mainly from adventures traveling the United States and hiking in various parks, where I enjoy the challenge of finding interesting shapes and juxtapositions in nature and making

the most of situations I discover. While I have seen many beautiful sunrises and landscapes, I find that the little scenes often overlooked by others are the ones that fuel my photographic creativity. I am always looking beyond the obvious and photographing the things that others might not even notice like an acorn sprouting, the patterns made by rust and faded paint on an old automobile, or textures in the windblown sand of a local beach. Sometimes the most amazing images are right there under your feet.

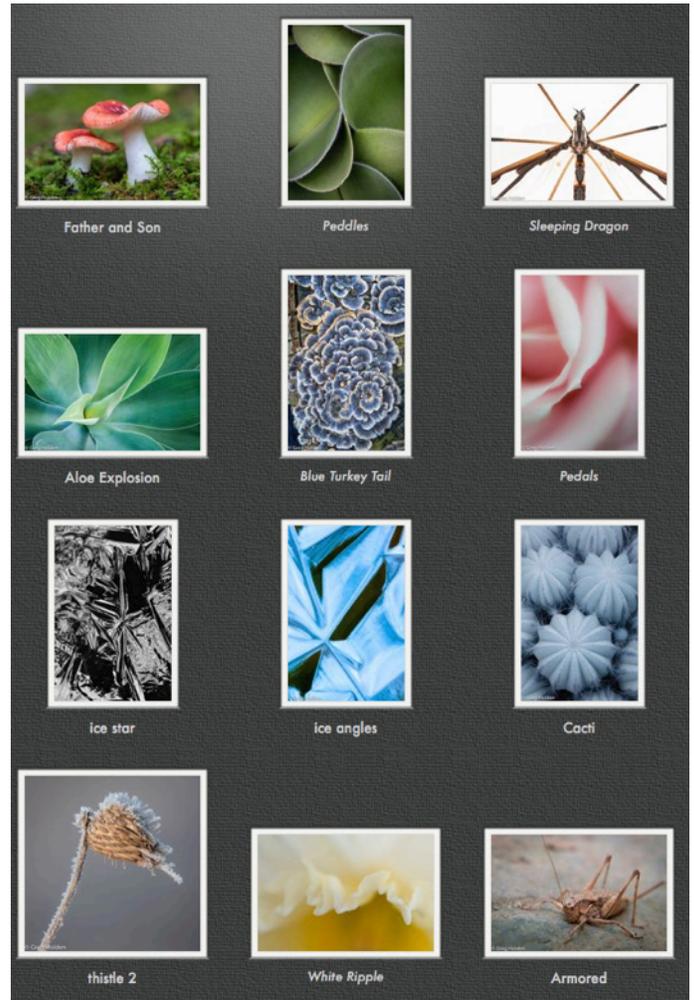
I live in Maryland and I'm a member of the North Bethesda Camera Club (<http://www.nbccmd.org>). You can follow me on Flickr:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/holdengs> and

Instagram: @imagesunderfoot or visit my website:

<http://www.imagesunderfoot.com>. I am available for private instruction and I also teach classes through

Capital Photography Center: <http://capitalphotographycenter.com/>



Jan. 17 Themes: Simplicity and Abstracts in Nature Digital Art

Simplicity: This style of photography takes a minimalist approach to conveying a message/mood. Include only the essential objects that add value to your photograph and exclude details that may distract or confuse the viewer. Examine your final photo and determine if there is anything else you can leave out that will make your message stronger. Here is a link to examples of simplistic/minimalist photography <https://digital-photography-school.com/minimalist-photography-4-tips-to-keep-it-simple-with-a-maximum-impact/>

Abstracts in Nature Digital Art : Your nature image should not include the hand of man (people or man made objects) Nature abstract images can be created by focusing up close on a small area of something, or focusing on an area from a great distance away. The resulting image ceases to be representational and becomes an abstract series of lines, shapes, patterns. Abstracts can also be achieved by moving the camera (swiping) or rotating the lens while taking the photo. Slowing the shutter speed can also achieve interesting results. Check out this link <https://digital-photography-school.com/creating-abstract-images-in-nature/> A digital art theme allows you to transform your original photograph, using your choice of apps, software, filters, textures, etc., into something that is more akin to fine art.

Where are Your Women, Nikon?

By Barbara J. Saffir

"To promote a new camera, Nikon enlisted 32 photographers from Asia, Africa and the Middle East to try it out and tell their stories on the company's website," the *New York Times* recently wrote. "But Nikon couldn't — or didn't — find any women to participate. All 32 were men."

Maybe Nikon's male employees were looking under a rock.

Just a few months earlier, the *Times* wrote: "Today, women make up the majority of students in undergraduate and graduate photojournalism programs. The top photo editors of *National Geographic*, *Time*, *The Washington Post*, *The New York Times* and many other American publications are female, as are many if not most of their subordinates."

Just in case Nikon wants some help, here are some resources, including a link to the NYT stories and to some prominent female photographers, who are too numerous to mention in this short story.

<http://time.com/4671986/women-photographers/>

<http://mashable.com/2017/09/15/nikon-female-photographers/> *

<https://www.womenphotograph.com/>

<http://womeninphotography.org/wipihome.html>

<http://www.pwponline.org/>

<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/09/14/technology/nikon-female-photographers.html>

<https://lens.blogs.nytimes.com/2017/02/01/highlighting-women-in-photojournalism/>

<https://www.lensculture.com/articles/lensculture-editors-celebrating-international-women-s-day-21-great-female-photographers>



PHOTOGRAPHER MAYA LEVIN, ON MASHABLE*

My Fav Photo

By David Kepley

I would never submit this to a competition, but I love it for the memories it evokes in me. My oldest son got married in the summer of 2016 in Seattle. Right after the wedding, my wife's family and I visited Olympic and Mt. Rainier national parks. My in-laws had tried to visit these parks when Congress closed the government, but couldn't get in. So it was my pleasure to guide them through these two magnificent parks. Here the family is gathered around a very old tree in Mt. Rainier National Park. The area is called the Grove of the Patriarchs. My wife renamed it the Grove of the *Matriarchs!* Touché, dear!



Free National Park "Vacation"

Want a *free* 2- to 4-week stay in a national park? As an accomplished photographer, you can apply to be an "**Artist-in-Residence**" in about 50 programs at parks nationwide. "Artists have created art in national parks since the late 19th century when famed Hudson River School painters captured the majestic views of our nation's western parks," the National Park Service says. "Whether staying in a remote wilderness cabin at Denali National Park and Preserve in

Alaska or contemplating history at Herbert Hoover National Historic Site in Iowa or working in a contemporary studio overlooking the stone-lined fields at Weir Farm National Historic Site in Connecticut, these programs provide artists with unique opportunities to create works of art in varied natural and cultural settings." There are programs for visual artists, writers, musicians, and other creative media. For details, click here:

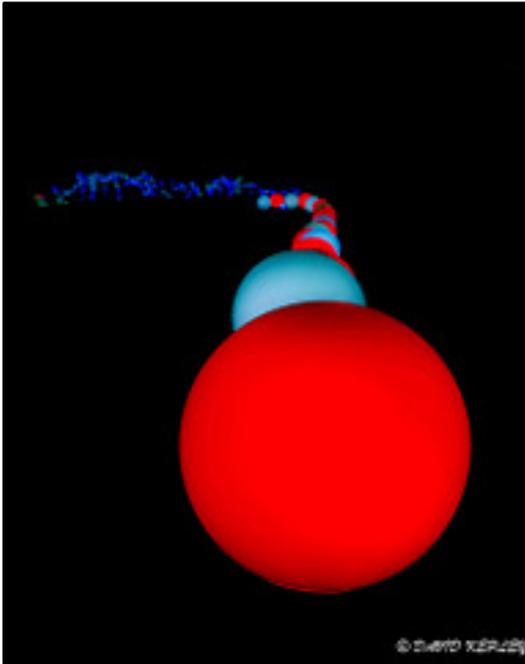
<https://www.nps.gov/subjects/arts/air.htm>



Dec. 5 Field Trip

Winter Walk of Lights, Vienna's Meadowlark Botanical Gardens

By Lori Saunders



DAVID KEPLEY, WINTER LIGHTS, 2016 VPS FIELD TRIP

VPS's official December field trip to the Meadowlark Botanical Gardens Winter Walk of Lights is Tuesday, Dec. 5 at 4:45 p.m. VPS gets early access before the public enters at 5:30. Meadowlark is transformed into a half-mile, animated walk of lights. It's a great opportunity to practice night photography. I have some experience in night photography and will be happy to help anyone new to it. It also makes for some great abstract opportunities playing with light. Last year, Patricia Deege, Janet Gelb, and I all had photos from last year's trip juried into Joe Miller's abstract competition and Patricia won an award.

Tripods are strongly encouraged; however, tripods are not allowed to be setup on the trail; you are also not allowed to go out of the Winter Walk area (i.e., across the lake).

You need to buy tickets ahead of time (the sooner the better!) online at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/meadowlarks-winter-walk-of-lights-tickets-38158153063>. They are \$13 for adults and \$8 for children and you need to select the 5:30 time slot.

We'll meet in front of Meadowlark at 4:45 p.m. (9750 Meadowlark Gardens Ct, Vienna). Wear comfortable walking shoes and warm clothes, including a hat, gloves and/or hand warmers. Bring a cable release or remote if you have one. RSVP to loriasaunders@gmail.com or 703-980-7475 and send your email and cell phone #. If you're running late, please text my cell so we will know you are on your way. Details: <https://www.novaparks.com/events/winter-walk-of-lights>.

Dec. 3 Nature Field Trip

Conowingo Dam's Bald Eagles

By Barbara Saffir

More eagles hang out at Conowingo Dam around Thanksgiving than virtually any other place on the East Coast. We'll meet at 7 a.m. on Sunday, Dec. 3 in the first parking lot you reach.

BRING: hot chocolate, a blanket, super warm shoes, a warm coat, extra batteries, charged cell phone, snacks, and possibly a folding chair.

ADDRESS: Conowingo Dam, 2569 Shures Landing Rd., Darlington, MD. RSVP to Barbara Saffir with your cell if you haven't already. Barb22030 AT yahoo DOT com. <http://www.harfordbirdclub.org/conowingo.html>



AWARD-WINNING SHOT BY KATHRIN SWOBODA
CONOWINGO DAM, 2016 VPS FIELD TRIP

Field Trip Reports

Waterside Woolen Mill

Photos and Text By Lori Saunders



David Kepley, Kathy Swoboda, and I visited the Waterside Woolen Mill in Woodbury, PA in September. It's one of the oldest operating woolen mills in the country. The mill shut down in the 1960s but it was reactivated in 1990 to manufacture traditional Pennsylvania wool blankets. The equipment used in the mill dates from the latter 1800s to the early 1900s.

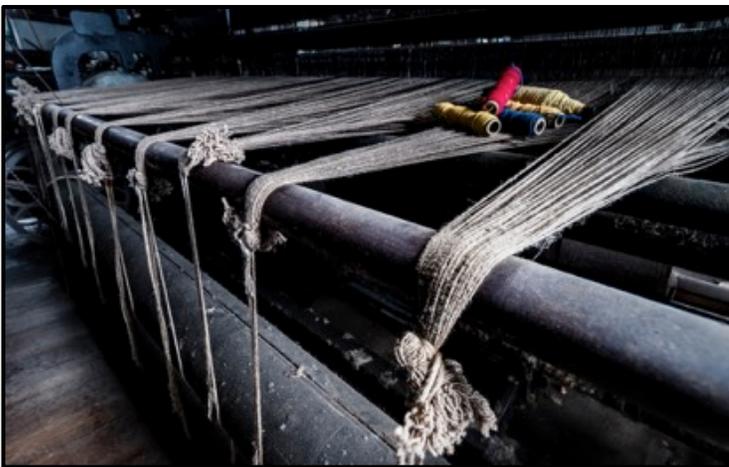


We arrived around 9 a.m. and wandered around inside and outside until 2 p.m. We photographed looms, wool, and bobbins galore, and we explored a very old attic. It was also a beautiful day for capturing the river flowing behind the mill.

Please see additional photos from the field trips in the VPS Flickr and Facebook groups. Photos from the Woolen Mill were featured in the banners during October and photos from Colvin Run Mill are featured for November. Photos from the Meadowlark Botanical Gardens' "Winter Walk of Lights" will be featured following our Dec. 5 field trip.

<https://www.flickr.com/groups/vienna-photographic/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/107509176593979/>



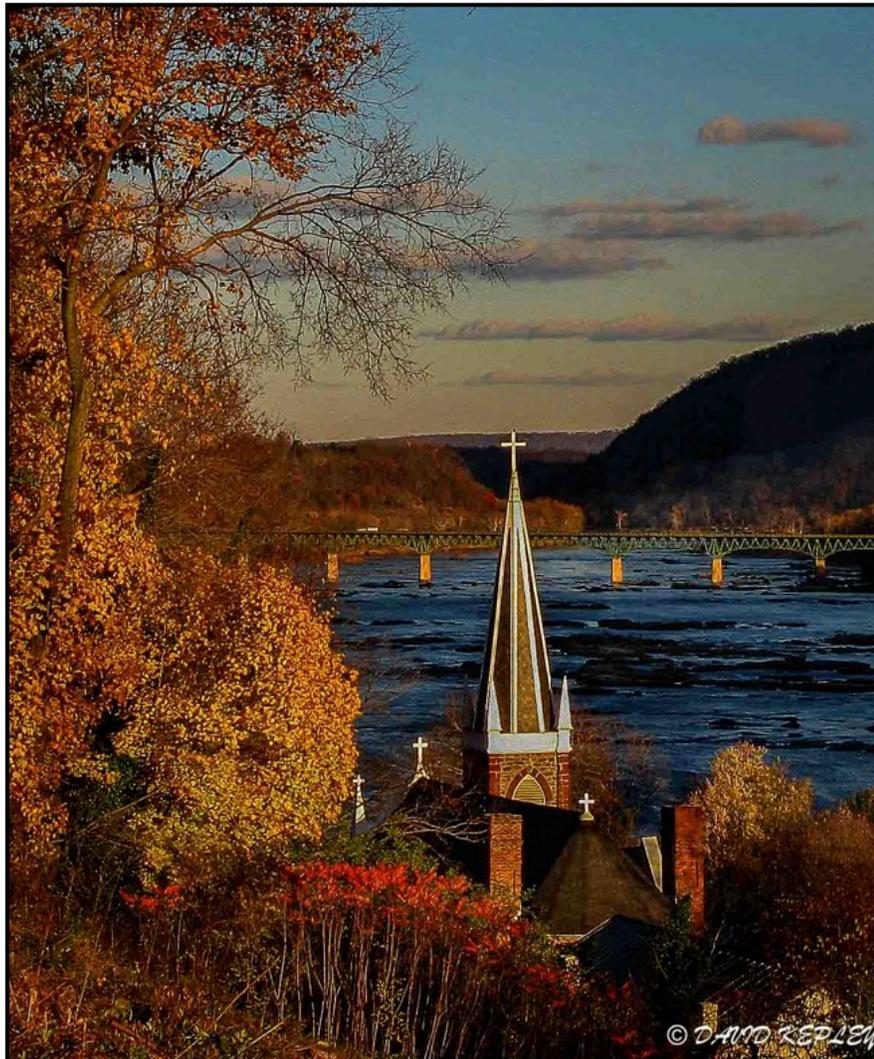
Foliage Tips

By David Kepley

Every time autumn approaches, I can't resist the urge to capture those incredible foliage shots! I have a number of them. Here are a few suggestions for approaches you might want to consider. Especially since some of our beautiful foliage is hanging around late this year.

FRAMING: Use the gorgeous colored branches of the fall leaves to frame a subject.

Here I have a photograph of a church with lots of foliage surrounding it.



REFLECTIONS: Don't forget that the colors will reflect very nicely off water. You may not even need to show the actual leaves themselves to get a really interesting effect.



SUBJECT: Make the subject a leaf. Instead of using them for framing, select a really nice clump of leaves or an individual leaf.



Nov. 15 Competition Results

Judge: John Hoover

Theme: Street Photography – 19 entries

1st Place	Patricia Deege	Sheep Market in Tanzania
2nd Place	George Silvas	Rolling Thunder
3rd Place	March For Science	Lori Saunders
HM	Morton Friedman	Navigating the Steps
HM	Bill Mugg	Piano Man



Theme: Working (animals, people, machines) – 29 entries

1st Place	Bill Mugg	Working Up a Sweat
2nd Place	Lori Saunders	Blacksmith Working
3rd Place	David Kepley	Block and Tackle
HM	Lori Saunders	Mill Grinding
HM	David Kepley	A Well-oiled Machine
HM	Joan Axilbund	Cleaning Perry Monument
HM	Morton Friedman	A Stringer of Pearls



Open Digital Novice – 6 Entries

1st Place

Gary Perlow

Chicago Theater

2nd Place

Alana Graves

Turkey Vulture Wing Extension



Open Digital Advanced – 16 Entries

1st Place

Bill Mugg

Pimmit Find

2nd Place

Kathleen Furey

Dahlia Petals

3rd Place

Gloria Spellman

Red Tailed Hawk

HM

Joan Axilbund

An Eye on the Photographer



Open Prints: Combined Novice and Advanced – 8 entries

1st Place

Kathleen Furey

Objects in the Mirror

2nd Place

Patricia Deege

Salt Flats Dantes View



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



PSA Report and News

By *Kathrin Swoboda*, PSA Representative

PSA Report: Results of Round 1 of PSA Interclub

PSA Nature was judged at the Grand Rapids Camera Club. Images by **Barbara Johnson, David Kepley, Bill Mugg, Barbara Saffir, and Kathrin Swoboda** scored 70 points, placing VPS in 10th out of 38 clubs in a strong performance. Kathrin Swoboda won an award of merit for "A Sheltered Chick" and a honorable mention for "Begging Bluebird."



PSA Open was judged by the Palmerstown Camera Club in Dublin, Ireland. Images by **Lisette Brisebois, Kathleen Furey, John Padbury, Lori Saunders, Gloria Spellman, and Kathrin Swoboda** received 52 points, placing VPS in unofficial 20th out of 25 clubs in stiff competition after being promoted to Group D because of a top 4 finish in E last season.

You can see more details, including scores at <https://www.vpsva.org/> under "PSA News."

REMINDER: Deadlines for Round 2: PSA Open Dec. 3 and PSA Nature Dec. 17.

Volunteers Wanted: Please contact me if you are interested in volunteering for PSA at the Vienna Photographic Society. Thanks. - **Kathrin** (*kswoboda2421 AT gmail DOT com*)

Love to Win?: If you love winning contests and/or sharing your expertise, here's another reason to pen a piece for "Focal Points." Your story could win an award from PSA when VPS enters this international association's annual newsletter contest. **Bill Mugg** won this year! Your short article could be on almost anything, such as how to organize photos on an iPhone, a camera or equipment review, your top ten tips for macro photography, or a highly technical subject. The more useful, unusual, and/or entertaining the better.



Save the Date: PSA's 2018 Conference is in stunning Salt Lake City, UT from Sept. 30 to Oct. 6.

Merry Olde Ireland

By David Kepley

A number of our members visited Ireland during this past year. I highly recommend it! The people are warm and friendly, they (sort of) speak our language, and the scenery is terrific. Ireland's west coast features a lot of cliffs descending into the Atlantic Ocean. Even in mid-summer, the weather can be cool (60s), breezy, and wet. But hey, bad weather is supposed to make great photos, right? Don't forget that Ireland has some fascinating human history as well.



Cliffs of Mohr



Celtic Cross



A Rugged Place Called The Burren

MEMBER NEWS

Want to Take a Trip of a Lifetime to Yellowstone?



Hello VPS Members,

A few members in the club are interested in visiting Yellowstone National Park next year for 6 days (6 nights lodging inside the park) around May 11-31 and or June 1-4, 2018, depending on available lodging. VPS member and Yellowstone expert Wayne Wolfersberger will head the trip and longtime members Mary Jane and Martin Fish will attend. We have room for up to 3 additional people for a maximum of 8, including one woman to be my roommate to split hotel costs. If you want to go, call me ASAP, as the lodging inside Yellowstone is going fast. Then I can email you all the information. If I miss your call, please leave a message and I will get back to you. This will be a really exciting trip!

Sincerely, Loma Mier

(Cell: 703-691-1253)

Photos courtesy of Yellowstone National Park via Flickr.

<https://www.nps.gov/yell/index.htm>

<https://www.yellowstonenationalparklodges.com/>

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/yellowstonenps/albums/with/72157676829301493>

Calendar/Opportunities

- **Dec. 1:** VPS needs you! Can you put your accounting background to use as VPS's volunteer **treasurer**? If so, please email VPS President David Kepley (kepley DOT david AT gmailDOTcom).
- **Dec. 1-3:** **Virginia Beach Birding Field Trips**, Virginia Society of Ornithology <http://www.virginiabirds.org/events/field-trip-announcements/2017-winter-field-trip-announcement>
- **Dec. 3:** Informal VPS field trip to Conowingo Dam for **bald eagles**. Email Barb22030 AT yahoo DOT com for details and see page 14.
- **Dec. 3:** **PSA Open #2** deadline at midnight. Enter one image at vpsva.org. For questions, email Kathrin Swoboda (kswoboda2421 AT gmail DOT com).
- **Dec. 5:** Official club field trip to Meadowlark Botanical Gardens **Winter Walk of Lights**. See Nov. 9 email from Lori Saunders (loriasaunders AT gmail DOT com) and page 14. <https://www.novaparks.com/events/winter-walk-of-lights>
- **Dec. 5:** Wings Over Water **bird festival, Outer Banks**, NC. Details: <https://www.wingsoverwater.org/>
- **Dec. 17:** **Photograph models** at Baltimore's Graffiti Warehouse Fantasy Meet n' Greet Party. \$25 to shoot from noon to 6 p.m. Details/future Meet n' Greets: <http://graffitiwarehouse.com/event/graffiti-warehouse-fantasy-meet-n-greet-party/>
- **Dec. 17:** **PSA Nature #2** deadline at midnight. Enter up to two images at vpsva.org. For questions, email Kathrin Swoboda (kswoboda2421 AT gmail DOT com).
- **Dec. 20:** ***VPS meeting canceled*** due to holiday break. (No December forum either.)
- **Dec. 23:** Call for Entries for 8th Annual Joseph Miller **Abstract Photography Exhibit**, May 5 – May 28, 2018. The deadline for submissions is Feb. 23. For details, visit: http://nvacc.org/home/wp-content/uploads/2012/12/AE_Prospectus_2018_v1.1.pdf
- **Dec. 26:** Focal Points **newsletter deadline 9 pm**. Send *EARLIER* if possible. Please submit stories, story ideas, technical tips, member news, and "My Fav Photo."
- **Dec. 16:** VPS holiday **party**. See page 3 above.
- **Jan. 3:** VPS speaker Alan Goldstein speaking about **drone photography**.
- **Jan. 17** **VPS Competition** (See page 11 above.)
- **Jan. 24:** **VPS Forum**: Critique Editing: results & discussion
- **Jan. 31:** **VPS Forum**: Critique Editing 2: remaining results & discussion and round table critique

ONGOING:

- **2018 Nature's Best Photography** magazine's Windland competition. Details: https://www.naturesbestphotography.com/enter_guidelines.php
The 2017 winners are exhibited at the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History through September, 2018 https://www.naturesbestphotography.com/smithsonian_exhibitinfo.php
- **2018: VPS's 30th Anniversary** . Volunteers needed to plan a celebration.

VPS Themes for 2018



- Jan. 17** Simplicity
Abstracts in Nature Digital Art
- Feb. 21** Black & White
Winter Digital Art
- Mar. 21** Night Photography
Animals in Motion
- Apr. 18** Things that Fly
Photojournalism
- May 16** 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, Competitions	Janet Gelb
Digital Projection	Mike Cochran, Lilly Heagy, Lori Saunders
VP, Member Communications	Gloria Spellman
Director, PSA	Kathrin Swoboda
Director, Focal Points	Barbara Saffir
Director, Publicity	David Heagy
Director, Membership	Paige Counts
Director, Website	Gloria Spellman
VP, Forums	John Naman
VP, Field Trips	Lori Saunders
VP, Operations	George Silvas
Director, Social Events	Carol Carroll
Exhibits	<i>vacant</i>
Gift Cards	Julie Cochran
50/50 Raffle	Julie Cochran
Nature Visions Representative	Bill Mugg

*(To contact the club and/or to **volunteer for open positions**, 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, & low-res photos to Editor Barbara Saffir (Barb22030ATyahooDOTcom).

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 DOT com* or 703-978-2961)