

Double Exposure

Newsletter of the Mid-Atlantic Chapter of PSA
November, 2021

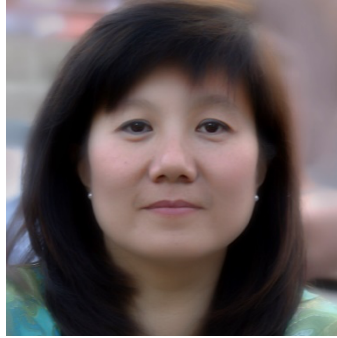


“Indigo Bunting and Sunflower” by Kathrin Swoboda

Mid-Atlantic Chapter Officers



Henry Ng
HonFPSA, EPSA, EFIAP
Chair



My Phuong Nguyen
APSA, PPSA
Vice Chair, Programs



Michael Tran
APSA, PPSA
Vice Chair, Competitions



James R. Roy
FPSA, PPSA
Secretary



Judy Burr
APSA, MPSA
Treasurer



Margaret Sprott
APSA
Newsletter Editor



Hieu Truong
Field Trip Director

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Getting to Know Kathrin Swoboda by Margaret Sprott



Kathrin Swoboda
by Laura Goyer

Kathrin Swoboda, QPSA won the Best of Show Award as well as the award for the Best of Mid-Atlantic Chapter in the PSA Chapter Showcase in 2021 for “Indigo Bunting and Sunflower.” Kathrin joined PSA in 2016 and is a member of Vienna Photo Society.

Now she’s excited about learning more about printing and exhibiting which she does through her website and her camera club. She recently joined The Art League at the Torpedo Factory and currently has a print on exhibit there.

If you go to Kathrin’s website, you can see many of her images, including some award-winning ones, that she sells as prints. They are available in different sizes and I think the prices are quite reasonable.

Kathrin agrees that capturing these birds in action takes a lot of patience and time. Beyond her camera club activities, she has learned about bird photography from professional photographers, particularly Ray Hennessy (rayhennessy.com)

Here is how you can reach Kathrin and see more of her work:

Kathrin Swoboda Photography LLC
703-964-7958

novanaturephotography.com
[instagram.com/novanature](https://www.instagram.com/novanature)

She loves to photograph birds and is a moderator for two large bird hubs on Instagram and they post images of birds from around the world. I checked her website and Instagram site and was very impressed with her bird images which feature birds in action.

Message from the Editor Margaret Sprott, APSA

After much deliberation, the MAC board decided to have an in-person program meeting which required many e-mail exchanges between Henry Ng, My Phuong Nguyen, Michael Tran and myself. My Phuong made all the arrangements with Leisure World and found the speakers. Michael managed the Chapter Showcase presentation. Henry answered numerous questions and I sent a lot of messages to all of you about the meeting. That was a lot more messages than some of you wanted but I thought we really needed to let people know about all the details of the meeting and we wanted a good number of members to attend and they did.

Henry is now on the road so could not write his message from the chair. I was able to talk to Hieu Truong at the meeting so I know he is planning some field trips for next year. Judy Burr had made it back

from her trip to Rapid City, SD for the PSA Festival so she was able to attend but Jim Roy had planned a trip to Maine so he was unable to attend. I’m not sure whether the board will be able to have in-person meetings or if we will continue to meet via Zoom but we will continue to take care of the business of MAC.

There is still a lot of worry about in-person meetings and I know many people were still reluctant to take a risk of meeting in a group. However, we wore masks and were able to spread out and everyone had been vaccinated so maybe we will be able to get back to “normal” soon. Of course, the new variant may cause a change in those plans.

I hope you all had a Happy Thanksgiving and will be able to enjoy a festive holiday season with just enough snow to make it pretty.

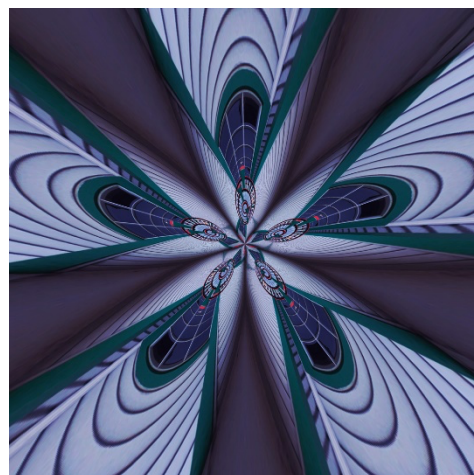
2021 PSA Chapter Showcase Entries



Twist in Black and White
My Phuong Nguyen



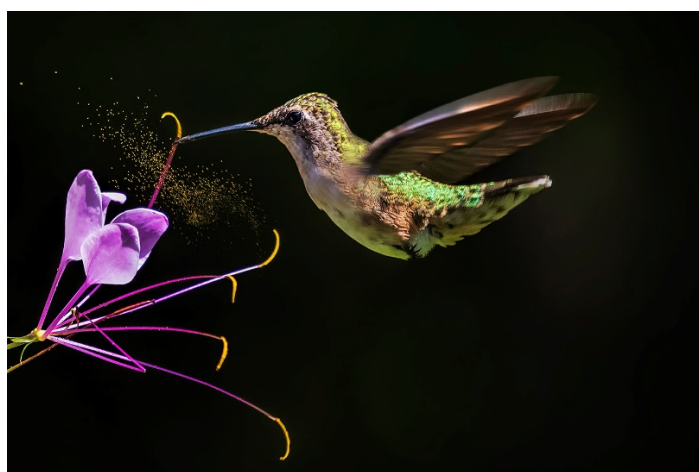
Cover Photo



Five Windows Modified
Judy Burr



Lotus Blooming
Huong-Hua Nguyen



Gold Dust
Thuy Phuong Tran



Great Gray Owlet with Dinner
Robin Harrison



Curtain of Snow Geese
Valentina Sokolskaya

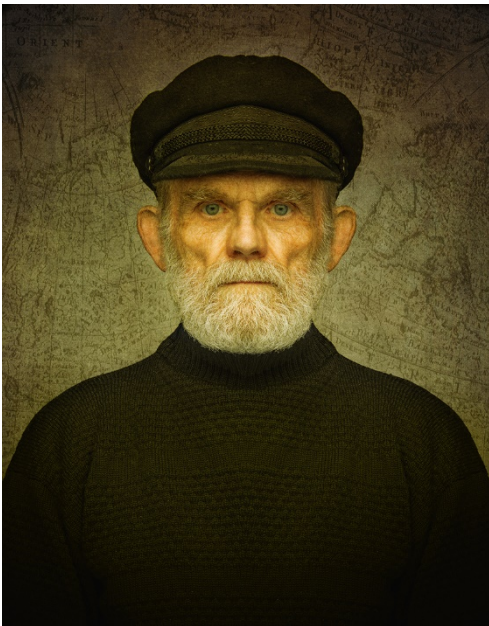
More Showcase Entries



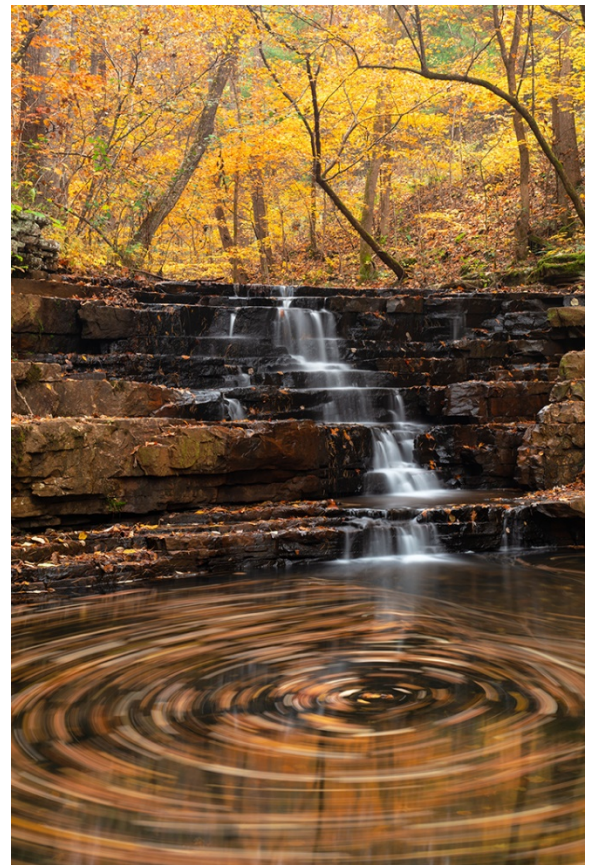
Winter Break
Michael Tran



Explosive Humpback Breach
Dee Lanigan



Self Portrait
Jim Turner



Fenwick Fall Swirl
Nicolas Raymond



Eye Focus
Elizabeth Koller

Mid-Atlantic Chapter Program Meeting Margaret Sprott, APSA

The first in-person meeting since Covid of the Mid-Atlantic Chapter (MAC) of PSA was very successful. There were about 30 people attending, mostly MAC members but also some from the Rossmoor Camera Club which meets at Leisure World where the meeting was held. We were treated very well and had a delicious lunch in their restaurant so we could save time and not have to find a restaurant.

The Chair of MAC, Henry Ng, announced that the MAC competition meeting will occur on March 22, 2022, some field trips are being planned and the date for the next Program Meeting will be announced later. He also said the Chapters Across America event, which had to be cancelled this year, is now scheduled for November in 2022. The four chapters will be MAC, Metropolitan, Wisconsin, and Central Florida. Topics will be PID Color, PID Mono, Nature Open, Photojournalism Open, and Photo Travel Open. Details will be provided later.

Awards Announced

2020 PSA PTD Image of the Year

Silver – Thuy Phuong Tran

2020 Who's Who Worldwide

Michael Tran placed as Top Exhibitor in

Nature Division – 12th

Photo Travel Division – 8th

Photo Journalism Division – 26th

Henry Ng placed 9th in 3D Division

Robert Leonard placed 11th in 3D Division

2021 PSA Circuit Exhibition

My Phuong Nguyen won an Ornithology Award
and a PSA honorable mention

After the business part, Michael Tran showed the Chapters Showcase Slide Show. You can find it at <https://psa-photo.org/index.php?2021-showcase>.

We heard interesting and informative presentations by our two speakers:

Eddie Kang from North Bethesda Camera Club

Jim Turner from NIH Camera Club

Following are highlights from their talks.

Eddie Kang



Eddie was a great speaker who gave lots of good tips and shared some of his images. I will list some of the things I learned and I'm sorry that I've forgotten some of what he said. He started by telling us about immigrating from Taiwan and then got

right into teaching us about how to become a better photographer.

He stressed that competing was a good way to find out whether you are improving and to learn from other photographers by hearing criticism of your work. He advocated that you recognize your own level, to work harder, and to practice. He also told us to look at ALL our photos to pick out the best of them and to not be afraid to crop, showing some examples of how to make a better image.

Here are some other things he recommended:

Have a center of interest and be sure it is the brightest part of the image. Work to improve the impact of your image – does it grab your attention, does it have some emotional meaning. Convert it to B&W to see if it is better than in color. Be creative. Use things like the rule of thirds and leading lines to improve your compositions. Take MANY images and go back to look at old images and be sure to post-process. Don't just use the picture as it came out of the camera.

Eddie used many examples to show how he removed blemishes, got rid of noise, and improved color and impact in Lightroom, Topaz AI, and PhotoShop. He recommended adding a thin line border around all prints and to make all your female subjects pretty.

He ended with a list of Points of Interest within about two hours of Montgomery County with good descriptions about many of them. (see next page for list)

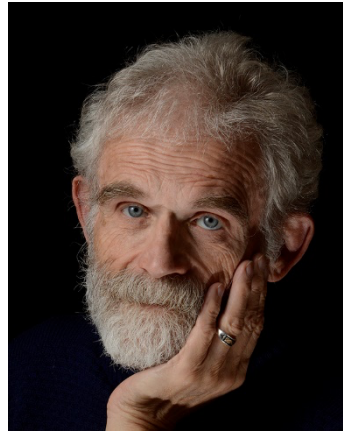
Points of Interest

Conowingo Dam
Port Deposit
Havre de Grace
Lancaster County, PA Amish Country, Mud Sale,
Strasburg Train Ride
Chambersburg, PA
Burkittsville, Gathland State Park
Civil War Journalist Memorial
Gettysburg
Emmitsburg, Thurmont, National Shrine
Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes
Frederick Old Town
Harpers Ferry
Sharpsburg, Antietam Battlefield
Point of Rocks
Leesburg Old Town
Alexandria Old Town
Ginkgo Grove (UVA Arboretum near Boyce, VA)
North Beach, Edgewater, Beverly Triton Nature Park
Blackwater State Wildlife Refuge
Chestertown, Rock Hall
Baltimore – Harbor View, Fells Point, Light Street

Two of the photos Eddie used in his talk. They can be seen in his gallery on the MAC website.



Jim Turner



Jim was also a good speaker and explained things in a way that made them easy to understand.

He gave a presentation on Macro and Close-up photography that began with a discussion of the advantages and limitations of various types of equipment: macro lenses,

close up filters, and macro extension tubes. Then he talked about the importance of depth of field in macro and close-up images and ways it can be controlled for various types of shots. Next, he showed a number of pictures of his own and other photographers that illustrated the use of lighting, depth of field, composition, and software manipulations to produce effective macro and close-up images. He concluded with a description of the setup he uses to shoot insects and showed some images of insects that were shot in his backyard in Silver Spring MD.

Two of the photos Jim used in his talk.



Opportunities in PSA and MAC

Margaret Sprott, APSA

Membership Directors

PSA State Membership Director Positions are currently vacant in Virginia and the District of Columbia. Serving in this capacity can be a good way to learn more about PSA and make some new photo friends. If you are a resident of Virginia or the District and are interested in being a state director, contact Dick Sprott at sprottrichard@gmail.com

Participation in Chapter Events

Next November MAC will participate in Chapters Across America which is a digital circuit exhibition where you can compete with members of the Central Florida, Metropolitan, and Central Florida Chapters. This is a way to earn stars and recognition of your photographic achievements. If you are not familiar with these opportunities, go to the PSA website and click on Stars/ROPA. You can start collecting your entries for PID Color or Monochrome, Open Nature, Open Photo Travel, or Open Photojournalism. Also watch for information about this circuit in the coming months.

Annual Website Contest

We are fortunate in that we have a very competent webmaster, Emma Howells, who happens to live in California. She moved there from Maryland where she was a member of the NIH Camera Club and has maintained her contacts with us in the East. Last year the MAC website won first place and I'm sure Emma will enter again this year. Be sure to check out our website and start a personal gallery there if you have not already done so. To do that just send the images you want in your gallery to Emma at:

embt01@gmail.com

Newsletter Contest

The MAC newsletter, Double Exposure, won third place this year for the October 2020 issue. We will enter again this year and hope we will do the same or better. We are in the Chapter/Council group of entries so we are judged with groups like MAC.

Questions about any items in this newsletter? Contact Margaret Sprott at margaret.sprott@gmail.com.

PSA Photo Festival

This year's festival was in Rapid City, SD where we had easy access to some scenic places. There were fewer people attending than usual due to continuing worries about Covid. However, Linda Eisenstadt, Judy and Ed Burr and Dick and I decided to brave it. Linda is responsible for all the food events and always does a great job. Dick and I visited the Crazy Horse Memorial which was much more interesting than we expected. We visited the Badlands but only for a short time because we had been there before. We all were able to reconnect with old friends and we stayed safe by wearing masks and being vaccinated.

Next year's Festival will be in Colorado Springs from September 21 to 24. This is another place with many interesting places to visit so make plans to go. Just be sure to be vaccinated, save your pennies, and watch for more information about the details.

Writing Articles

I know that I like to hear about MAC members who have won awards or traveled to interesting places or have some photographic knowledge they would be able to share with other members. I hope some of you can write articles for the next issues of Double Vision and will send them to me. Don't be afraid to toot your own horn and get some recognition for things you do. I will be eternally grateful!

Earn Honors

Some of us have earned honors in PSA and many of you are eligible for your first honor or for subsequent ones. Honors are Associate (APSA), Fellow (FPSA), Honorary Membership (HonPSA) and Honorary Fellow (HonFPSA). Go to the PSA website and click on Honors to find the rules, forms, and all you need to know about them. If someone approaches you about earning an honor, don't be afraid to do it.

New Website

PSA's VP for Information Technology, Jaci Finch, has been working hard to update and improve the PSA website which is scheduled to open in December. We will be glad to see the improvements.

Camera Clubs & Councils in MAC

Club or Council	Club or Council Rep
DELAWARE	
<u>Coastal Camera Club</u> , Rehoboth Beach, meets at Cadbury Assisted Living Facility, Lewes	
<u>Delaware Photographic Society</u> , Wilmington	Lynn Maniscalco, HonPSA, EPSA
<u>Delaware Valley Council of Camera Clubs</u>	Lynn Maniscalco, HonPSA, EPSA
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA (DC)	
<u>Potomac Society of Stereo Photographers</u> , Meets in Washington, D.C. and serves the greater DC area: N. Virginia, Maryland, and DC	
MARYLAND	
<u>Arundel Camera Club</u> , Arnold	
<u>Baltimore Camera Club</u> , Baltimore	Diane Bovenkamp
<u>Bowie-Crofton Camera Club</u> , Temple Hills	Roz Kleffman, APSA
<u>Fotocraft Club</u> , Silver Spring	
<u>Gaithersburg Camera Club</u> , Rockville, meets at Asbury Methodist Village	Judith MacArthur
<u>NIH Camera Club</u> , Potomac	Dick Sprott, APSA
<u>North Bethesda Camera Club</u> , Kensington	Judy Burr, APSA, EPSA
<u>Rossmoor Camera Club</u> , Silver Spring	Woodrow Shields
<u>Silver Spring Camera Club of Maryland</u> , Meets at Silver Spring United Methodist Church	Oliver Morton
VIRGINIA	
<u>Camera Club of Richmond</u> , Blackstone	Carole Hagaman, FPSA
<u>Cockade City Camera Club</u> , Petersburg	Ken Cox
<u>Manassas-Warrenton Camera Club</u> , Manassas	Brenda Golaher
<u>Northern Virginia Photographic Society</u> , Annandale	Thomas H. Brett
<u>Shenandoah Photographic Society</u> , Delaplane	Norman Reid
<u>Vienna Photographic Society</u> , Meets at Thoreau Middle School	David Kepley
<u>Vietnamese Photographic Society</u> , Falls Church	