



Out of Focus

Newsletter of the Focus Photo Club of Southwest Ohio
A Special Interest Club for Amateur and Professional Photographers

“So What DO I DO Now?”

Scheduled Events

- Feb 7—deadline:
Upload digital photos and print photo information for competition before midnight
- Feb 10—monthly meeting:
Stephen Goldberg, Fix a Photo
- Mar 10—monthly meeting:
Bring non-perishables for food pantry;
Richard Fox memorial;
Tom Hissong, topic to be announced
- Apr 8—deadline:
Submit photos for Focus on Music (see page 3)
- Apr 14—monthly meeting:
Focus on Music

Stephen Goldberg has answers. “We’ve all been there“ he says when describing the presentation he’s planned for the February 10th meeting. “Maybe it was on vacation, or maybe a birthday party, or maybe it was just around town. It looked OK in the viewfinder, but when we downloaded them to our computer, we knew that our most memorable shots were memorable for all the wrong reasons.

“Not everyone can take a great photo with the right mixture of light balance and focus. Sometimes our lens introduces distortion or our angle for the shot causes a weird effect. We often rely upon in-camera tools such as the *histogram*, *‘blinkies,’* *zebra stripes* or *‘focus peaking’* to set up a photo. After all, if it looks OK in the viewfinder it must be OK, RIGHT?

“Not really - The image you see in the viewfinder is just a heavily processed, low-res JPEG of what your image sensor sees. Ask yourself, did my photo ‘blow out’ the highlights? Are the shadows hiding details I want to see? Did my camera shake? Was my shutter speed too slow or too fast? Was my focus less sharp than it could have been? If you answered YES to any of these questions your next question will be **‘So what do I do now.’**

“It’s not always easy to go back for a ‘re-shoot.’ Our discussion this month deals with several post processing techniques you can use to salvage photos that might otherwise be relegated to the recycle bin. “

Stephen, a Focus Photo member since 2017, currently serves as the club’s Vice President. He is active in other local photography related groups and teaches a class in Photoshop to seniors at the Osher Lifelong learning center at University of Dayton. He looks forward to collecting more memorable images on travels to the Galapagos Islands this spring and China, New Zealand, and South America at some time in the future.

Rules revert to “normal” in February: member must be present to compete.

Contents	page
About Focus	2
President’s Corner	2
In Focus	2
Happenings	3
Competition Info	4
Competition Results	5-6

Focus Membership

Basic \$30.
+ Family + \$24 each additional person
Charter \$24.
Earned free
Mid-year \$15.
Pay in person at a meeting, on line

at www.focusphotoclub.com, or print the membership form available on the *About-Us* page of the website and send with your check to Focus Photo Club
6254 Wilmington Pike #1059
Dayton, OH 45459

NOTE: new address as of 11/2021

Focus Photo Club meets on the 2nd Thursday of the month, July—May, from 6:45—9:00 pm at Central Christian Church, 1200 Forrer Blvd, Kettering, OH. Guests are welcome.

Find Focus Photo Club on the web at <https://www.focusphotoclub.com>, for rules and regulations, history of competition results, images from the most recent competition and links to some members' personal web pages.

Check Focus Photo Club on Facebook for conversations between members, timely reminders, and the latest on group outings.

NOTE: new address as of 11/2021

Send mail to Focus Photo Club
6254 Wilmington Pike #1059
Dayton, OH 45459

The newsletter, *Out of Focus*, is published monthly to inform members and friends of Focus Photo Club about club events, club competition, and other photography/photographer items of interest. **Distribution is via email.** A copy is also posted on www.focusphotoclub.com.

Do you have corrections to or suggestions for the newsletter content?
Contact pellriott1@woh.rr.com.

Executive Board 2021-2022	
Interim President	Susan Willin
Vice President	Stephen Goldberg
Secretary	Kathy Moore
Treasurer	Joyce Willis
Competition Chair	Louise Haws
Digital Comp Chair	Janet Bollinger
Historian	Julie Lucht
Hospitality Chair	Pat McCarthy
Membership/ PR	Pat Elliott
Program Chair	
Site Liaison	John Murphy
Webmaster	Susan Willin
Co-founder	Nancy Roach (d.)
Co-founder	Brook Brandewie (d.)

President's Corner

As we continue to roll into a new year, our competitions are in full swing. The transition to adding our print entries to Photo Contest Pro has gone well and has streamlined our process in many positive ways. We continue to see brilliant images within our club and continue to learn from each other. We have many members who are excellent presenters who share their knowledge making us all better photographers and creative editors. For our new members who may still be a little apprehensive about entering images or prints, please don't be. We want to share your excitement and want to learn from you too! And to everyone, no matter what the world throws at us, our club continues to be strong and has risen above the chaos. Our membership is strong and active and together we continue to thrive as a premier photography club!

Susan

In Focus: Amazing Things

Scott Young

Amazing things happen when we step out of our comfort zone. This point was driven home when I learned how to brew my own beer. After a couple of years of brewing beer that I liked, three other brewers and I created a group and challenged ourselves to brew every style of beer in the BJCP (Beer Judge Certification Program) Guidelines. By doing this, we learned many different techniques that may be specific to a style, but could be used in creative ways to achieve what we were looking for in our own creations. In addition to technique, we also found an appreciation and enjoyment for all styles of Ales and Lagers.

I have played with photography since I was 8 years old. I used my father's camera to do some school work and then got my own 35mm SLR when I was slightly older. The BUG set in deep when I was sitting in our apartment and saw a hot air balloon fly by. I grabbed the camera, said good-bye to my wife and headed out the door chasing this balloon. While I got some descent shots, the balloon landed in a field not too far away giving me a chance to watch the landing, the clean up, and then talk with the pilot/owner. These would be my first photographs sold.

Work and family took priority for many years, as it should. Digital cameras came into play and I got back into photography several years ago as a serious hobby. Outdoor photography has always been

continued on page 3

In Focus: *continued from page 2*

my thing, and I still love landscape and nature photography. However, I looked for local groups that could give me a challenge similar to brewing. Focus has done just that. The monthly themes and presentations have opened my mind to seeing in a more artistic light. I am finding that the lessons learned are suddenly transforming me into a better photographer and giving me an appreciation/love of genre that I never gave much thought to (still life for example). As crazy as it may sound, I am enjoying the definition, set-up and trouble-shooting of studio photography “almost” as much as a wonderful nature excursion. So, yes, it is true. Amazing things happen when we step out of our comfort zone.

In Focus features the thoughts of Focus Photo members on topics related to photography.

Take Away from Stan Rohrer’s January meeting presentation, ‘Varying Depth of Field: How and Why’:

Depth of field, how much of your subject, from front to back, is in focus, is determined by your aperture setting. Large aperture opening such as f/2.8 = shallow depth of field. Small aperture opening such as f/16 = deep depth of field. There is no “right” depth of field. There IS a particular depth of field which results in the image you envisioned when you clicked the shutter.

See Stan’s slides and notes from the presentation at www.focusphotoclub.com on the Educational Tutorial page.

NOTE:

On the website, www.focusphotoclub.com, on the **Competition** page:

Labels for the back of prints that can be down loaded for printing/ completing at home before the meeting.

Links to PhotoContest Pro “How To” and to the upload utility itself.

A link to the competition rules.

In April, our program will be a video, *Focus on Music 2022*—the play list below illustrated by photos YOU contribute.

If the titles alone don’t bring images to mind, check under “Get Ready for the April Program” on the Upcoming Events page on the website, www.focusphotoclub.com/upcoming-events. Click on the titles to download lyrics; click on the adjacent links to hear recordings of the songs.

Give your imagination free reign, especially when you’re deciding what the Addams Family members look like. Are there Focus folks among that crowd?

Send photos in jpg format to Louise Haws at wthymh@gmail.com before April 8th. Sooner is better. There is no limit to how many. Be sure to identify yourself and the song the photo is related to in your message.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. The Addams Family | Mychael Danna and Jeff Danna |
| 2. Animal Song | Savage Garden |
| 3. I Believe | Frankie Lane |
| 4. Birds and the Bees | Jewell Akens |
| 5. Country Roads | John Denver |
| 6. Marshmallow World | Tony Russo |
| 7. In the Ghetto | Elvis Presley |
| 8. Here Comes the Sun | Beattles |
| 9. Splish Splash | Bobby Darin |
| 10. Have You Ever Seen the Rain | Creedence Clearwater Revival |
| 11. What a Wonderful World | Louis Armstrong |
| 12. God Bless the USA | Various Artists |

Competition Themes

2021	
Jul	In Camera Abstract
Aug	Liquid
Sep	Reflection
Oct	Dark and Moody
Nov	Thankful for . . .
Dec	Tis the Season
2022	
Jan	Shapes and Patterns
Feb	Backlighting
Mar	Green
Apr	Color Explosion
May	In Bloom

Focus Photo holds a monthly photo competition for printed images and projected digital images. The optional competition theme for the month adds a challenge, or maybe an incentive, for the photographers. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and Honorable Mention places are recognized in each category. Points based on placement level are accumulated towards End-of-Year awards.

“Winning” aside, we all benefit from seeing each others’ work. Participation is a great opportunity for honing technique, stepping outside of usual subject arena, building a critical eye.

A qualified member (**dues must have been paid in advance, the member must be present at the meeting***) may enter up to 4 photos per month but no more than 2 per category.

All entries must be uploaded/registered by 11:59 pm on the Monday prior to the monthly meeting. Print entries must arrive at the meeting no later than 7:15.

** A member may compete one time per year without being present. See complete rules on the **Competition** page of the website, www.focusphotoclub.com.*

	Competition Categories			
	Printed		Projected	
	Open	Theme	Open	Theme
Color Standard	X	X	X	X
Color Unlimited Editing	X	X	X	X
Monochrome Unlimited Editing	X		X	

Avoid disqualification

Print Registration Process

In order to standardize and simplify the management of competition entries, as of December 2021, all entries must be pre-registered through PhotoContest Pro (PCP), the app that's also used for digital entries. Nothing has changed for digital entries. **Print entries are still judged from the actual prints.**

In particular, note:

- A digital copy* of the print image must be uploaded to PCP** before midnight of the Monday before the meeting. The uploaded copy must be given the same title that will be used to refer to the actual printed image.
- PCP will use the resulting information - photographer, title, contest category - to produce a list with entry numbers for each category.
- Upon arrival at the meeting, the photographer will check off their entry on the list and record

the entry number on the back of their print.

- Following judging, when winners are announced, the uploaded copy of the print image will be displayed on the screen instead of the print being held up at the front of the room. (Prints will still be available for viewing at the back of the room until they are picked up by the photographer.)

* The digital copy can be any .jpg image as long as its title is the same as your print, but it is recommended that it resemble the printed copy. It might be the photograph at any point from out of camera to final edit. It might be a snapshot or scan of the print you're bringing to the meeting.

** links to PCP, and to detailed instructions for using PCP, may be found on the competition page of the website, www.focusphotoclub.com/competition.

January Printed Image Competition Results

OPEN

Printed Color Standard Open

- 1st Stephen Goldberg/Hey—we're still sleeping
- 2nd Ned Pennock Sparrow
- 3rd Ted R. Allison Niagara Mist
Ted R. Allison Squawk
Stephen Goldberg/Lost in Time

THEME, Shapes and Patterns

Printed Color Standard Theme

- 1st Louise Haws Building in Patterns
Ned Pennock Tango Rose
- 2nd Ted R. Allison Harrisburg Arches
- 3rd Stan Rohrer Steps & Shadows
- HM Ted R. Allison Port Colbourn Bridge

Printed Color Unlimited Editing Open

- 1st Louise Haws Snowy in the Snow
- 2nd Stephen Goldberg/Waiting for Goldilocks
- 3rd Stephen Goldberg/Following the Leader

Printed Color Unlimited Editing Theme

- 1st Louise Haws Gourds of Patterns
- 2nd Ned Pennock Wolves Gone Wild
- 3rd Stan Rohrer Color tunnel
- HM Stan Rohrer Window Reflection

Printed Monochrome Unlimited Editing Open

- 1st Louise Haws Hawk Sitting Up High
- 2nd Stan Rohrer Lookout Dayton

January Projected Image Competition Results

OPEN

Projected Color Standard Open

- 1st Joann Jozwiak Clubtail Dragonfly
- 2nd Lynn Milenkevich/Red Rose
- 3rd Crystal Allen Daytona Lighthouse
George Sucich Albany
Scott Young All Hitched Up and No Place to Go
Scott Young TOO HOT to Play!
- HM Crystal Allen Who Knew?
Joann Jozwiak Angry Bird

THEME, Shapes and Patterns

Projected Color Standard Theme

- 1st Scott Young Puddles of Linear Spheres
- 2nd Linda Daegele Pick Your Pattern
Kathy Moore I'm Lit
Scott Young Another Egg
- 3rd Holly Smith Vertigo
- HM Linda Daegele Dance of the Plungers
Holly Smith Big Mac

Projected Color Unlimited Editing Open

- 1st Kathy Moore I'm Horny
- 2nd Susan Willin Christmas Spirit
- 3rd Tod Brining Vintage Speed—1966 Lola T70
Joann Jozwiak Foggy Morning
Susan Willin Fun Sunflower
- HM George Sucich Macys

Projected Color Unlimited Editing Theme

- 1st Susan Willin Crazy Horse
- 2nd Linda Daegele Garden of Glass
Kathy Moore Jellies
- 3rd Crystal Allen Ponce Stairwell
Crystal Allen Sitting in Style
Ned Pennock From the Bottom of My Heart
- HM Linda Daegele Emerald Window
Holly Smith Heart
Susan Willin Be My Valentine

January's Projected Image Results continued on page 6

January Projected Image Competition Results (continued from page 5)

OPEN

THEME, Shapes and Patterns

Projected Monochrome Unlimited Editing Open

1st	Kathy Moore	Zebras Playing Fetch
2nd	Tod Brining	Ice Patterns on a Pond
	Holly Smith	Snowy Station Road Bridge
3rd	Tod Brining	Beach Reflections

January's Top Ten Point Earners

Louise Haws	36
Kathy Moore	32
Ned Pennock	28
Stephen Goldberg	26
Scott Young	26
Susan Willin	24
Ted R. Allison	20
Linda Daegele	20
Stan Rohrer	20
Crystal Allen	18
Tod Brining	18
Joann Jozwiak	18
Holly Smith	18

January's Icon Achievers*

200 Points	Stephen Goldberg	Ned Pennock	
175 Points	Louise Haws	Kathy Moore	Stan Rohrer
150 Points	Joann Jozwiak	Susan Willin	
100 Points	Tod Brining	Holly Smith	Scott Young
75 Points	George Sucich		
50 Points	Crystal Allen	Linda Daegele	Lynn Milenkevich
25 Points	Ted R. Allison	Pat Elliott	

*An icon achievement happens when a person's YTD points reach or pass an "icon" level during the competition month. Those levels are point counts which are multiples of 25. This list celebrates those events.