

Syosset Camera Club

Viewfinder

March 2023

Barry Goldstein, Editor



Members are encouraged to suggest topics for articles and to submit articles and opinions to the **Viewfinder** for publication. Copy not otherwise attributed was written by the Editor. Please send copy to bg1958@live.com

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The viewfinder

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Bonnie Forman-Franco

It's amazing how this winter has been so different than in the past several years. Imagine, no snow until the end of February and moderate temperatures as well? Hopefully, with this being said, most of you got out and photographed to your heart's content. I know I was able to go shooting a minimum of one to two times per week. Long Island, NYC, the Boroughs—so much to see and do here in our area. Of course, there is always your own backyard and the beautiful, feathered friends who visit. They make for great bird photos.

The club has continued to offer field trips. Deborah arranged for a successful trip to Planting Fields and the Camilla House. Hopefully, you were able to capture beautiful flowers and walk the grounds which is always a nice activity. Another trip is scheduled March 9 to Hicks for the Spring and Flower Show. Show support for these outings and have a chance to socialize with other club members.

Programming has been wonderful. Lisa Langell did a great presentation as always. Hopefully, you all enjoyed her as well. Mark your calendars for our next presenter—Jim Zukerman for March 23. He presented last year and was a real hit. We learned so much and hope for the same this year.

Congratulations to Valerie and Alan A for their high scores received at PFLI. Our club members continue to do well and submit beautiful images. You should all be very proud of your work.

We had our first time collaboration with Fresh Meadows Camera Club with a presentation by Cheat Sheet Bert Sirken. His program on Visualization was well received. We hope to have more shared programs with this club in the future.

A big thank you to Steve Friedman for stepping up and becoming our PhotoPro back-up projectionist. Thank you to Barry for teaching him “the ropes.”

A big thanks to Barry for once again putting together our wonderful newsletter. Until the next time, keep capturing those great images.

NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Beth Glorioso

I've been a 'shutter bug' since the end of 7th grade, when my sister upgraded her camera and gave me her Kodak Disc camera. I was always the 'event photographer' with my friends. Fast forward to adulthood and I wanted to give my sister flowers for Mother's Day but she's highly allergic. I had the idea of photographing a beautiful bouquet I bought for my husband's grandmother and gave her a framed print knowing it wouldn't cause her eyes to swell up. That was the start of my love of both floral and macro photography.



I Purchased my first DSLR just before my older son was born- hence came the baby pictures, but I didn't truly fall in love with newborn photography until 2013. That is when I went out on my own as a professional, specializing in newborn photography. I had studio space for a year; but I'm not great at running a business, so I switched gears and went back to a full-time finance position.

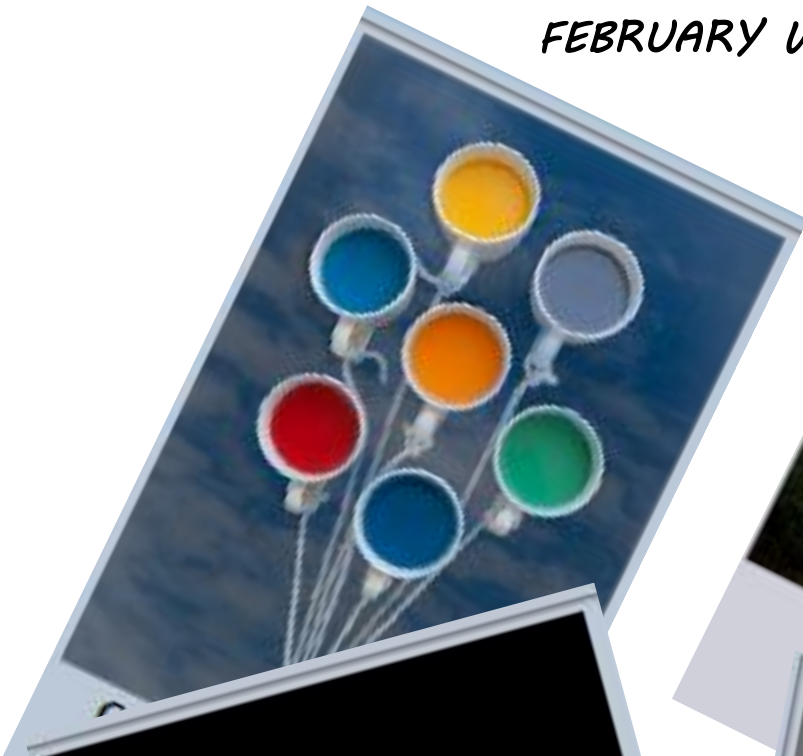
I Almost forgot to mention that I love tinkering in Photoshop as much as if not more than creating images in camera. At first, I thought I wanted to be a professional retoucher, but then thought I should learn to create the images to edit. I still love photography- mostly portraits and nature shots- but I'm starting to venture into pet photography. I want to experiment with light painting in the summer.

I love creative lighting, angles and framing. I currently shoot with a Canon R6. I love my 100L macro above all other lenses, but maybe that's because I don't have an 85 yet?

I am looking forward to meeting all of you and having new opportunities to learn and improve my skills.

..... Beth

FEBRUARY WINNING IMAGES



roger Daltrey
Robert Kaplan



Who Gives a Hoot
Debbie Garafola

FEBRUARY WINNING IMAGES CONT.



Yummy
Peter Newman



EASTERN KINGBIRD FINISHING LUNCH
Bonnie Forman-Franco



Man in a Window
Barry Goldstein

SCC FEBRUARY SCORES

CREATIVE

Kathy Baca

8.0 Payback's a Bitch

Roni Chastain

8.5 On watch

8.0 Sootybill Imita

7.5 Light the ballerina

Steven Friedman

8.0 just having fun

8.0 haven't house

Ellen Gallagher

8.0 Clock Montage

8.5 Sootybill Bare Trees

8.5 Flowers Behind Glass

Debbie Garafola

Imag of the Month 10.0 Coffee Cup Balloon

8.5 Shadows on Steps

8.5 Soaring Eagles

Sylvia Goldkranz

8.0 Painterly Petals

7.5 Interlocking Cities

8.0 In a Moody World

Peter Newman

8.0 Sushi Sausage

7.5 Flamingo Feathers

DIGITAL B&W

Alan Agdern S

8.0 Morning Workout

9.0 Guarding the port

9.0 Fishing in the cold

Alan Baca A

9.0 Rosie O'Grady's

Kathy Baca A

9.0 Shimmer

Roni Chastain A

7.5 Tracks with yellow rail

8.5 Here comes the train

8.0 Yellow raincoat

Valerie DeBiase S

8.0 Abandoned Truck And I

9.0 Two 1's On The Southe

9.0 Orchard Beach Pier An

Andrew Dubitsky A

9.0 Juvenile Hawk

9.0 Boxer

7.5 Heron Present

Bonnie Forman-Fr S

9.0 Bronx "1" Train Station

8.5 Eddies 100 Year Old Ic

8.5 Stairway to Repentance

Steven Friedman A

9.0 a bloody mess

8.0 NYC Seaport

Ellen Gallagher S

8.5 JFK Reflection

9.0 Reflections in Boston

8.5 Old Malta Window

Debbie Garafola B

8.5 Be My Valentine

8.5 Bad Hair Day

8.5 Boots

Sylvia Goldkranz s

9.0 Petals and Pearls

8.5 Manhattan Skyline

8.5 The Curious Store

Barry Goldstein S

8.0 Black & White Flower

Imag of the Month 10.0 Man in a Window

Robert Kaplan B

Imag of the Month 10.0 rooster Daffodil

8.5 Jokers

8.0 Osprey

Peter Newman A

9.0 Pigeon 21

Imag of the Month 10.0 Yummy

7.0 Daisy Daisy

Joseph Nightingal A

9.0 LIGHTHOUSE

8.0 RUINS

7.5 BIRD WATCHES

Lorraine Piskin A

9.0 White Cameroune Franc

8.0 Giselle In The Enchant

8.0 Swamps of Louisiana

Sandy Sommer A

8.5 Eve on the Ball

9.0 Red Barn

9.0 Fishing at Orient Point

Jules Weisler A

8.0 Waterfall

7.0 High bridge

8.5 Osprey nest

8.0 Yard equipment

Gerald Woulfin A

7.0 Just Sitting Around

8.5 Surviving the Area

7.5 Red Tail in the Brush

DIGITAL PROJECTION

Alan Agdern S

9.0 Brotherly Love

8.0 Purple Orchids

8.0 Sunning Myself

Alan Baca A

9.0 Tree Frog

Kathy Baca A

8.5 The Fox Goes Phoo

8.5 American Diaper

Roni Chastain S

8.5 Mom and baby sloth

9.0 LI sunset

8.0 The photographer

Valerie DeBiase S

8.5 Ghostly Facade And Co

8.5 Comin' Out Of The Tun

9.0 Abandoned Steel Work

Andrew Dubitsky A

9.0 Eerie Couple Nest Buik

8.0 Sunset Eerie Landina

8.5 Heron Kiss

Bonnie Forman-Fr S

8.5 OHIO FARM SCENE

Imag of the Month 10.0 EASTERN KINGBIRD I

9.0 KOMODO DRAGON

Steven Friedman A

9.0 lighthouse

9.0 Hudson terminal

Ellen Gallagher A

9.0 Tulip Field

8.0 Sunrise in Britain

8.0 Green Leaf Closeup

Debbie Garafola B

Imag of the Month 9.5 Who Gives a Host

8.5 Bridge of Flowers

8.0 Red Camellia

Sylvia Goldkranz S

9.0 Early Morning View

8.5 The Blue Room

8.0 Lighthouse On The Hill

Barry Goldstein A

9.0 Still Life

8.5 Bud on a Flower

9.0 Sunset at the Beach

Robert Kaplan A

9.0 Lazy Fox

9.0 GBH Love

9.0 snow owl

Peter Newman S

8.5 I Am Here

9.0 Study in Pink

8.5 Osprey Bill

Joseph Nightingal A

8.5 BAYARD 10

9.0 WOODPECKER

8.0 FLYING

Lorraine Piskin A

9.0 The Blue Dress

9.0 Cat In Her Pen

9.0 Living Quarters

Doreen Rose A

Imag of the Month 10.0 Dreamy Landscape

8.5 The Lake

Sandy Sommer S

8.5 Double Take at Sunset

8.0 View from Mt Washing

8.5 Snowy Eerie Preening

Linda Volin A

8.0 Along the Reservoir

7.5 Flamingo Cloud

8.0 Wandering Deer

Jules Weisler A

9.0 Blue butterfly

7.5 River boat

9.0 Praque man

Gerald Woulfin A

7.5 Cluster of Flowers

8.0 Leaf Litter Humina

8.0 Funny Weather

PFLI FEBRUARY SCORES

Scores for Syosset for February
Judges - Steve Kessler Mike DiRenzo Bonnie Forman-Franco

CRE	Ellen Gallagher	Fall Color Twist	21
CRE	Sylvia Goldkranz	MizDiVine	23
CRE	Ira Scheinerman	Inspiration	23
CRE	Debbie Garafola	Double Twirled Flower	24
Total			91
DBW	Debbie Garafola	Coneflower	21
DBW	Ellen Gallagher	Airport Curves	23
DBW	Alan Agdern	Sandpit Lighthouse in the Rain	23
DBW	Bonnie Forman- Franco	BEHAVE OR BE HERE OHIO STATE REFORMATORY	24
DBW	Ira Scheinerman	The Glow	24
Total			115
DBWII	Kathy Baca	Thar Be Bears In These Woods	20
DBWII	Joseph Nightingale	HAWK	21
DBWII	Sylvia Goldkranz	ThePortraitShadow	21
DBWII	Valerie Debiase	Williamsburg From The Rail Line	23
Total			85
DPA	Ellen Gallagher	Hills in Tuscany	21
DPA	Gerald Woulfin	Purple Dahlia	23
DPA	Bonnie Forman- Franco	Male Cadinal on Takeoff	23
DPA	Ira Scheinerman	Recession of Youth	23
DPA	Alan Agdern	If Looks could kill	26
Total			116
DPAIL	Robert Kaplan	Follow the Female	21
DPAIL	Joseph Nightingale	KIMONO DRAGON	21
DPAIL	Sylvia Goldkranz	TheQuietPose	24
DPAIL	Kathy Baca	Red Bellied Woodpecker Portrait	24
DPAIL	Valerie Debiase	Old Art Deco Lobby	26
Total			116
DPB	Debbie Garafola	Lindsay	24
Total			24

SOCIAL AND SUNSHINE

Happy Birthday- Laurie Ellis, Roni Chastain, Steve Friedman and Ellen Gallagher

HOW I DID IT

Steve Friedman

A LONELY RUNNER

This photo was created using Topaz Adjust filters and the magneÇc lasso, curves and Topaz Denoise. The seE ngs I generally use with the magneÇc lasso are: feather0, check anÇ alias, width 3px, contrast 50% and frequency 57.

- 1- The first think I did was to crop the photo
- 2- I selected the sky with the magneÇc lasso Using Topaz adjust – I selected a preset named Specify with the default seE ng
- 3- Next came the water. Aİ er selecÇng it I used the DramaÇc default seE ng
- 4- I noÇced that the runner was a liİ le dark, I selected him and using the curves tool, located under Image/adjustments, I lightened him up a liİ le.
- 5- Lastly I used Topaz denoise to lessen some noise I noÇce in the sky
- 6- final



1- The original



2- The cropped photo



3- The water



4 The runner



5 Denoise



Before and after



The final photo

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SCC MARKET PLACE**Switching to Nikon Z**

Contact Robert Kaplan for the following- rkaplan7@optonline.net

- AS-S NIKKOR 70-300MM 4.5-5.6 VR ED w/ Caps \$275
- AF NIKKOR 50 mm 1.8d w/CAPS \$100
- AF-S NIKKOR DX 35mm 1.8G w/Caps \$100
- TAMRON 18-270mm 3.5-6.3 Dill w/Caps and B&W UV filter and shade \$175
- AF-S NIKKOR 18-70mm DX 3.5-4.5G ED w/Caps \$ 80
- AF-S NIKKOR 200-500 5.6 ED VR w. Caps, Kirk lens collar/foot, Fittest metal 95mm lens hood, original hood original box \$900
- AF-S NIKKOR TC17EII, CAPS AND ORIGINAL BOX \$200 • SIGMA 10-20mm 4.0-5.6 EX DC HSM w/ caps, shade and Sigma case \$300
- AF-S NIKKOR 300mm f/4D IF-ED w/ caps \$350
- AF-S DX NIKKOR 18-140mm f/3.5-5.6G ED VR \$130
- Nikon D850 Body with cap Excellent condition \$1900 Shutter count 57,941

SCC SCHEDULE

Mar. 2	Board/Membership
Mar. 9	Critique
Mar. 10	PFLI Dig Comp.
Mar. 16	Competition
Mar. 23	Presentation
April 13	Board/Membership -
3	Image Limit Critique
April 14	PFLI Dig Comp.
April 20	Competition
April 27	Presentation
May 4	Competition
May 11	Presentation
May 12	PFLI Digital Comp.
May 18	EOY Digital Comp.
May 25	Open
Jun. 8 or 15	Tentative Party

Contact Barry Goldstein for the following- bg1958@live

- Fujifilm X-T3 Body MINT \$600
- ~~Fujifilm X-T4 body, mint condition~~ **SOLD**
- Fujifilm XH1 MINT With vertical grip. like new condition. Complete with original packaging, 3 Fujifilm batteries and charger. Camera was only used a few times. \$850.
- Automatic Ext. Tube Set for Nikon. Set of 3 extension tubes. Has electrical contacts to make them fully automatic for autofocus and autoexposure for Nikon cameras. 12, mm, 20 mm and 36 mm. Like new.
- 8 mm Movie Projector Revere Model 777—\$ FREE—WHAT A DEAL- NOW YOU CAN WATCH YOUR HONEYMOON MOVIES, TAKE IT AWAY!
- Slide Projector Crestline 500 AND SCREEN! works great, **\$FREE—COME AND GET E**

NEXT BIG THING!

Photography has reached a fork in the road. One road is a conformity to traditional methods with some at the extreme who are reverting to film. The other road is a full embrace of technology with artificial intelligence leading the way. Facial recognition is just the start. AI is becoming commonplace in both software and cameras. Artificial Intelligence has come further than you most likely think. If you want a taste of the state of AI, check out the open source, web-based beta version of ChatGPT. It can be found at <https://chat.openai.com/>. It's worth the effort of registering. You type a question into the box at the bottom of the screen and the program returns more than what you get from Google.

I asked ChatGPT a question I thought might stump it. My question: "How do I do focus stacking with a Fujifilm XT-5 camera." The following answer which has been copied and pasted, came back in just under 4 seconds (I timed it).

Focus stacking is a technique used to create a single image with an increased depth of field. This can be useful when photographing a scene with a large range of distances between the nearest and farthest objects that are in focus. Here's how you can do focus stacking with a Fujifilm XT-5 camera:

- 1. Prepare your camera and lens: Make sure your camera is in manual focus mode, and choose a lens with a large aperture (e.g., f/2.8 or wider).*
- 2. Set up your shot: Choose a tripod and determine the position of your camera and subject. You can use a tripod head with a built-in level, or you can use a spirit level.*
- 3. Determine the focus points: Determine the number of focus points you want to capture, and set the focus point at the nearest point of your subject.*
- 4. Take the first shot: Take a photo with the focus point set at the nearest point of your subject.*
- 5. Repeat the process: Move the focus point to the next point, and take another photo. Repeat this process until you have taken photos with the focus point at all the necessary points.*
- 6. Transfer the photos to your computer: Connect your camera to your computer and transfer the photos to your hard drive.*
- 7. Use focus stacking software: There are several software programs that you can use to combine the photos into a single, stacked image. Some popular options include Adobe Photoshop, Zerene Stacker, and Helicon Focus.*
- 8. Finalize the image: Once you have combined the photos into a single image, you can make any final adjustments, such as color correction, sharpening, and cropping, to get the final result you want.*

That's it! By following these steps, you can create a single, sharp image with an increased depth of field using focus stacking with your Fujifilm XT-5 camera.

And so gentle reader, is this the beginning of great new era or the end of one. The need for skill is becoming less important in photography. My philosophical question of the day; Is it a hobby if skill is not required? The creation of beautiful images is becoming increasingly less of a challenge. It's like driving a Ferrari with an automatic transmission. Maybe that explains the growing group of photographers who are reverting to film with the attendant tactile experience of the darkroom. Perhaps we got rid of our darkrooms and the smell of D76 prematurely.

DIY MACRO LIGHTING

There are specialized lights for macro photography. The inexpensive ones use LEDs which are not bright enough or fast enough for high shutter speeds and thus require a tripod. The best ones use flash tubes and are expensive.

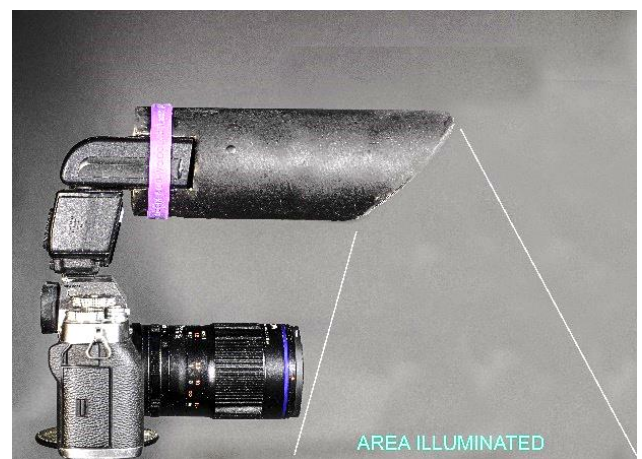


Plain Flash



With Macro Adapter

This simple home-made device uses the flash you already have. That plus a cardboard or plastic tube and a diffusing material. The tube size depends on your flash. A piece of thin-walled plastic pipe could be used. The diameter of the tube can be slightly larger than the front of your flash with cardboard shims glued in place on the inside to create a snug fit. If the tube is slightly smaller than the flash head, a notch can be cut on one side as illustrated. The tube is cut so that it just clears the end of your lens and beveled at a 45-degree angle. Cutting the angle on a round tube can be tricky, so the use of a miter box is helpful. The diffusing material is glued on the beveled end and trimmed even with sides of the tube. Mine was a brittle plastic liberated from a fluorescent fixture, so I had to grind it to shape. You could use any translucent material, even glassine or white paper.



Using a Nissin *i40* flash in manual mode, I obtained the proper exposure at 1/16 power, using f8, ISO 200. The flash is set to the cameras maximum flash synch speed of 1/250 sec. Of course, slower shutter speeds will allow ambient light if desired, but then a tripod would be required in most cases.

Jim Zuckerman Presentation

SYOSSET CAMERA CLUB



Presents
Jim Zuckerman
Fixing Problems with Photoshop
March 23, 7:30pm on Zoom



Jim will discuss strategies for solving various kinds of problems we photographers encounter. Here are a few examples :

Dealing with distracting backgrounds behind birds in trees.

Placing people in prohibited locations for artistic purposes.

How to do hand held HDR in low light environments if needed.

And how to match light and contrast when compositing images.

Please take a look at Jims website, and learn more about his works!

www.jimzuckerman.com



SCC Competition Standings

As of February

	Avg. Score	Sum of all Scores	Sum of Best 18 Scores	Rank (if more than 18 images)
CREATIVE				
Goldkranz	8.4	150.5	150.5	1
Chastain	8.1	146.5	146.5	2
Garafola	8.1	146.5	146.5	2
B&W A				
Sommer	8.4	150.5	150.5	1
Dubitsky	8.2	148.0	148.0	2
Nightingale	7.9	142.5	142.5	3
B&W B				
Garafola	8.4	152.0	152.0	1
B&W S				
DeBiase	8.6	155.5	155.5	1
Goldkranz	8.6	154.0	154.0	2
Forman-Franco	8.2	148.0	148.0	3

	Avg. Score	Sum of all Scores	Sum of Best 18 Scores	Rank (if more than 18 images)
PROJ. A				
Goldstein, B	8.6	155.0	155.0	1
Kaplan	8.3	150.0	150.0	2
Gallagher	8.3	149.5	149.5	3
PROJ. B				
Garafola	8.4	152.0	152.0	1
PROJ. S				
Forman-Franco	8.5	153.5	153.5	1
Goldkranz	8.5	152.5	152.5	2
DeBiase	8.4	151.5	151.5	3



SYOSSET CAMERA CLUB
FIELD TRIP

FLOWER & GARDEN SHOW

HICK'S NURSERIES

March 9th
Opens at 8 a.m.

Come early, tripods are allowed to be used from 8-9 am only ! Its always a pretty sight to see and enjoy the beauty of the flowers with its setups!

FIELD TRIP TO THE CHAMELIA HOUSE

Debbie Garafola

Our field trip to the Camellia House was on February 10th. The weather was perfect. It was warm enough that we didn't need our winter coats.

There were a lot of flowers to photograph. Sylvia brought a water spritzer, so we got to shoot some camellias with water droplets. We were so busy shooting the camellias, we forgot to get a group shot. For the next trip, someone remind me to do that!

COMING UP- Hick's Nursery's 33rd Annual Flower and Garden Show will be March 9th - 26th. They will be open from 8am to 6pm. We will have a field trip to Hick's on March 9th, from 8am to 9am, during which time we will be able to use tripods. Hicks is at 100 Jericho Turnpike in Westbury.

Debbie



Sylvia



Ellen



Barry

