

# EXPOSURES

## Springfield Photographic Society

### Photo challenges

September: Sea Life  
 October: Tombstones  
 November: Expression  
 December: Treasure  
 January: Bridge(s)  
 February: Starts with P  
 March: Glass  
**April: Chairs**  
 May: Celebration

### Volunteers needed

The Springfield Photographic Society needs help filling board of directors and volunteer positions. The board vacancies will occur, in part, because bylaws require board members to step down after five years. The rule allows some of our hardest workers to take a break and new faces to bring in fresh ideas. There are three openings. There are openings in the vice president-prints and president roles, since Rosemary Polletta and Kevin Fay, respectively, have hit their term limits. There is also one at-large slot. The board is asking people to take on only things they enjoy. The board is a welcoming group and we understand that people have lots of other responsibilities. Many of the things that need to be done are one-time projects. SPS also needs backups for the newsletter and social media editors. If you want to help out or want more information, check with Kevin ([kevin.fay44@gmail.com](mailto:kevin.fay44@gmail.com)).



Bird photographer Peter Christoph captured a kingfisher with a prized fish in its beak in this razor-sharp image.

## Bird photographer urges patience, persistence and perseverance

By JIM GILLEN

For Peter Christoph, three things are important in bird photography: Patience, persistence and perseverance.

He has practiced these throughout his career and it shows in his work which he displayed during a talk on The Art of Bird Photography to the Springfield Photographic Society March 22.

The wildlife advocate, naturalist and award-winning bird photographer based in Lancaster explained how he visits many sites in New England and Florida each year to get the best shots of birds. Perhaps the most telling photo in his 90-minute slide show was the one of him lying in a muddy swamp wearing a

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# Bird photographer offers tips for best shooting

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formerly white T-shirt and tan shorts while aiming a long lens to get a photo of a bird at ground level.

He related how he wanted to capture a photo of a snowy owl a few years ago. He trekked to the seashore and started shooting. When he realized there were four snowy owls to shoot, he called his wife and said he would be staying a week to get the shots he wanted. One of these days included a morning when it was 8 degrees below zero when he headed out to the beach.

Bird photography tips were a large part of Christoph's talk. He said he likes to shoot at f7.1 so most of the bird will be in focus. He uses aperture priority, AI focus or AI servo, a high shutter speed (1/2000 is preferred) and an ISO of 100 for sunny days and up to ISO 4000 on cloudy days.

Shooting early in the morning is best, he said, because that's when birds are active, seeking food for themselves and the hungry ones in the nest. He said to look for the birds' food supply first because that's where you will find the birds.

Here are a few of the tips he shared:

1. Shoot action, for instance, an open beak, a bird

carrying a fish or grass for its nest. The subjects will be more interesting and the photos will score better in competitions.

2. Lie on the ground to get a better angle and to avoid scaring birds.
3. Background is very important. Use a large aperture to soften it, put it out of focus.
4. Baby birds do well in photo competitions.
5. Don't crop too tightly in the camera. This will allow you to crop better on your computer.
6. Put the sun and wind at your back to better capture birds in flight.
7. Underexpose by one to one-and-a-half stops for better color saturation. This is important especially for white birds to avoid over-exposing the white areas.
8. Follow birds during migration, spring and fall.
9. Best to shoot in the spring because the birds are more colorful and there is little or no foliage in trees.
10. Stay low, shooting up to get simpler backgrounds.
11. Use a camera with a higher frame rate. This will allow for more shots of a moving subject and a better chance to get a keeper photo.
12. Focus on the bird before it takes to flight. This will keep the focus on the bird as it flies.

## Guides, learners needed for April program on improving editing skills

By CINDY NOTHE

Calling all SPS members – you spoke, we listened! You have been asking for more instruction on how to process your images. Some of you have well-developed skills and others still aren't sure how to edit. We will be bringing those two groups together April 26 at 7 p.m. for a hands-on image-processing program. But we need two things:

**Guides** – Members who are comfortable using their software to take a photograph from “before” (straight out of camera) to the “after” (cropped and enhanced to achieve an exhibition-quality image). You don't have to be an expert, just comfortable with your software. The people who aren't as experienced in using the tools will be grateful to have editing guidance. We need people who can demonstrate the most commonly used tools in Lightroom, Photoshop, plug-ins like Silver FX Pro in the Nik Suite, or any other software you use to make your images pop. We would like to have you show a

small group a sample image and the steps you would take to improve it, and then guide the group as they do the same with their own images. If you are in this group, please let me know soon so we can finalize plans. I need to know which software you can demonstrate so we can cover all the bases.

**Learners** – Members who want to get better at post-processing. We would like you to bring your laptop with some images and whatever software you have now or software that you would like to learn. (Most have trial versions that you can put on your computer before the event if you want to take them for a test drive with a guide.) If you don't use a laptop, bring images on a flash drive so you can take a turn working on someone else's computer. We're a friendly bunch and won't mind giving you a turn. If you plan to attend, please let me know which software you would like to learn, so we can be sure to have a guide lined up who can help you.

Please contact me at [cnothe@comcast.net](mailto:cnothe@comcast.net).

# Glass-themed photos sparkle in exhibition

Glass was the theme for March. Here are some of the shining entries, clockwise from the right: Glass Tulip by Rachel Bellenoit, Garden Through the Glass by Mary Amato, Reflections of the Past by Esther Husted and Reflections by Steve Greenberg.



# Exhibition results - Prints and projected images for March

**Judges: Kevin Fay, Barb Krawczyk, Sylvia Pyzocha,  
Dick Simmons**

## PRINTS

### Large Color

Rosemary Polletta	Twilight at Peggy's Cove	30	HA
Kevin Fay	Crossing the Keystone Arches	27	HA
Cindy Nothe	Money Hungry	27	HA
David S. Baker	Vineyard Sunset	25	
Gail Dinsmore	Block Island Sunset	24	

### Small Color

Cindy Nothe	Contemplating	28	HA
Gail Dinsmore	Violet	25	HM
Kevin Fay	Tyringham Barn	25	HM
Rosemary Polletta	Hot House Rosette	25	HM

### Large Black & White

Richard A. Novak	Not So – Big Jake	28	HA
Rosemary Polletta	Old Roses	26	HM

### Small Black & White

Kevin Fay	Three Sheds in a Mountain	26	HA
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### Artistic

Rosemary Polletta	Hyacinths	29	HA
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## PROJECTED IMAGES

### General

Sylvia Pyzocha	Hummingbird	29	HA
Rachel Bellenoit	Chewing Hay	28	HA
Kevin Fay	After the Snowfall	27	HA
Karl Meyer	Rainbow Fleet 2	27	HA
Larry Sanchez	Waterfall Lines	27	HA
Guenther Schubert	Swan Lake	27	HA
Dick Simmons	Bryce	27	HA
Amy Dane	Glamour Girl	26	HM
Steve Greenberg	Theater That Time Forgot	26	HM
Tim Donelan	Gray Sky Red Brick	25	
Denis Duquette	Chicago Reflections	25	
Jim Gillen	Body Surfer	25	
Barb Krawczyk	Singing His Heart Out	25	
Chris Laudani	Sky and Barn	25	
Eileen Donelan	Through the Window	24	
Esther Husted	Waiting	24	
Cindy Nothe	Marginal Way Sunset	24	
Jim Theres	Glass Impression	24	
Mary Amato	In Beauty We Find Strength	23	
Carol Reed	Strolling the Windsor Dam	23	
Muriel Lohnes	Heron	22	
Nancy Bryant	Dawn (M)	27	HA
Denis Duquette	Bleeding Heart Teardrops (M)	26	HM
Jim Gillen	Wave Skimmer (M)	25	
Karl Meyer	Kid Meets Puddle (M)	23	
Dick Simmons	Lily (M)	23	

### Black & White

Esther Husted	Windmill at LaMancha	28	HA
Amy Dane	Rheims Cathedral	27	HA
Steve Greenberg	Winter Vine Yard	27	HA
Barb Krawczyk	Heading Home	27	HA
Chris Laudani	Two Little Ones	27	HA
Eileen Donelan	The Fence	26	HM
Karl Meyer	Standing Tall	26	HM
Guenther Schubert	Tin Shop	26	HM
Nancy Bryant	What's Left Behind	25	
Denis Duquette	It's Your Move	25	
Rachel Bellenoit	Old Garage	24	
Kevin Fay	Skyscrapers	24	
Jim Gillen	Lonely Perch	24	
Sylvia Pyzocha	Winter Dusting	24	
Tim Donelan	Gate	23	
Muriel Lohnes	Bench	22	
Mary Amato	Looking for the God Particle	21	
Nancy Bryant	Beaufort Harbor (M)	25	
Heide Blackak	Patriotic (M)	24	
Denis Duquette	Omega Mill (M)	23	

### Artistic

Steve Greenberg	Bodega Bay	28	HA
Tim Donelan	Round Barn	27	HA
Sylvia Pyzocha	Winter Dreamland	27	HA
Rachel Bellenoit	Shamrock	26	HM
Eileen Donelan	Past Usage	26	HM
Gail Dinsmore	Rosie Dreams	25	
Kevin Fay	Sparkling Propeller	25	
Barb Krawczyk	Electric Orchids	25	
Karl Meyer	Sunflower	25	
Amy Dane	2000 Year Old Roman Glass	24	
Chris Laudani	Swan Train	24	
Cindy Nothe	Gnarled Copper Beech	24	
Esther Husted	Spanish Guitar	23	
Jim Theres	Curved Impression	22	
Mary Amato	Flag of Natural Origin	21	
Nancy Bryant	Abandoned (M)	25	

### Nature

Jim Gillen	Heron In Nest	28	HA
Mary Amato	Wading for a Picture	27	HA
Rachel Bellenoit	Drake Wood Duck	27	HA
Amy Dane	Basking in the Sun	27	HA
Barb Krawczyk	Bluejay in Rain	27	HA
Chris Laudani	Two Birds	27	HA
Eileen Donelan	Wolf in Early Morning	26	HM
Tim Donelan	Waterfall	26	HM
Sylvia Pyzocha	Icy Plunge	26	HM
Jim Theres	Sitting Pretty	26	HM
Denis Duquette	Superstition Mountains	25	
Kevin Fay	The Yellow Pool	25	
Esther Husted	Morning Light	24	
Guenther Schubert	Patience	24	

(Results continued on Page 5)



Rosemary Polletta beautifully captures a Nova Scotia lighthouse in the photo Twilight at Peggy's Cove, a high-scoring entry in the March exhibition.

#### (Results continued from page 4)

Muriel Lohnes	White Throated Sparrow	23
Nancy Bryant	Wild Horses (M)	26 HM
Denis Duquette	Longboat Key Sunset (M)	25

#### PRINTS AND PROJECTED IMAGES

##### Photo Challenge (Glass)

Rachel Bellenoit	Glassed Tulip	30 HA
Barb Krawczyk	Into Infinity	29 HA
Cindy Nothe	Inner Harbor Reflections	27 HA
Mary Amato	Garden thru the Glass	26 HM
Amy Dane	Crystal Clear	26 HM
Esther Husted	Reflections of the Past	26 HM
Muriel Lohnes	Wine Glasses	26 HM
Jim Theres	Glittering	26 HM
Tim Donelan	Glass	25
Jim Gillen	Glass of Lambrusco	25
Steve Greenberg	Reflections	25
Rosemary Polletta	Sea Glass in Frosted Glass (Print)	25
Carol Reed	Auntie's Old Glassware	25
Larry Sanchez	Bottle Mirror and Christmas Lights	25
Eileen Donelan	Stained Glass Cherub	24
Sylvia Pyzocha	Quabbin Restroom Window	24
Gail Dinsmore	John Hancock Reflections	23
Denis Duquette	Window Shopping	23
Kevin Fay	The Christmas Show	23
Nancy Bryant	Pier (M)	27 HA

#### Welcome to a new club member

A hearty welcome to a new member, JoAnne Palmer of South Hadley. JoAnne joined SPS in March.

### Photo walks planned to Tower Hill Botanic Garden, Parker River Wildlife Refuge

Rachel Bellenoit is accepting signups for two photo trips, Tower Hill Botanic Garden in Boylston April 25 and Parker River National Wildlife Refuge in Newbury May 11. Registration and further details can be found on the SPS website. If you have questions, contact Rachel at [bellenoit.rachel@gmail.com](mailto:bellenoit.rachel@gmail.com)

The botanic gardens are open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Meet at 10 a.m. (leave at 10:15) in the commuter lot behind McDonald's in Ludlow. Take the turnpike to exit 7, take a left then a left into McDonald's. It's a one-hour drive to Boylston. Return home at 4 p.m.

Tower Hill is home to 17 unique gardens. The photography will not be limited to flowers. Lunch will be at the garden's restaurant, Twig's Café. Cost is \$15 for adults, \$10 for seniors (65+). <http://www.towerhillbg.org/>

The Parker River trip comes on the heels of Peter Christoph's superb presentation on "The Art of Bird Photography" and during the spring bird migration.

Meeting spot is also McDonald's in Ludlow. Time is 7 a.m., leaving at 7:15 a.m. It's a two-hour drive. There is a one-time entrance fee of \$5 for cars. Lunch will be at Bob's Lobster. Return at 3 p.m.

It's an excellent time to shoot because spring migration for many birds will be in full swing. Parker River, [http://www.fws.gov/refuge/parker\\_river](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/parker_river), is a barrier reef island. There will be opportunities for bird and landscape photography. Rain date is May 18.

SPS will offer by email short local trips over the summer. Anyone interested in leading a trip (eg. Forest Park or Ashley Reservoir) contact Rachel or Chris Laudani, [chrislaudani789@comcast.net](mailto:chrislaudani789@comcast.net).

**SPRINGFIELD PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY  
RESERVATION FOR 2016-2017 YEAR-END BANQUET**

Collegian Court Restaurant  
89 Park Street, Chicopee, MA 01013

Wednesday, May 24, 2017  
Cocktails (cash bar) at 6:00 p.m., Dinner at 6:45

Menu

Fruit, cheese and crackers during cocktail hour.  
Buffet of two main dish selections as well as Italian meatballs and pasta, sautéed vegetables, roasted potatoes, kapusta, garden salad, rolls and butter. Coffee, tea, and iced tea. Cookie and brownie assortment for dessert.

**\$20.00 per person**

Make checks payable to Springfield Photographic Society

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Number attending: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$20.00                      Amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to SPS Treasurer Cindy Nothe, P.O. Box 124, Monson, MA 01057.

**Reservation deadline: May 17, 2017**

**SPS Officers and Directors**

**Elected positions**

President	Kevin Fay
Vice President (Prints)	Rosemary Polletta
Vice President (Projected Images)	Ron Belovitz
Treasurer	Cindy Nothe
Secretary	Nick DeCondio, MNEC
Directors	Karen Geaghan, MNEC
	Chuck Bentley
	Judy Bolio
	Karen Lemoine
Non-elected Director	Chris Laudani

The non-elected director is the immediate past president.

**Appointed positions**

Judge Coordinator/Exhibition Standards	Barb Krawczyk
Loomis Gallery Curator	Rosemary Polletta
Membership Chair	Larry Sanchez
Newsletter	Jim Gillen
Publicity Coordinator	Cindy Nothe
Social Media	Nick DeCondio
Statistician	Ken Cook, MNEC
Trip Coordinator	Chris Laudani
Website Manager	Rachel Bellenoit

**EXPOSURES**

Exposures is the monthly newsletter of the Springfield Photographic Society. SPS is affiliated with the Photographic Society of America and the New England Camera Club Council. Society meetings are held at Loomis Lakeside at Reed's Landing, 807 Wilbraham Road, Springfield, at 7 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month, September through May. The SPS website is [sps.photoclubservices.com](http://sps.photoclubservices.com). President Kevin Fay can be reached at [kevin.fay44@gmail.com](mailto:kevin.fay44@gmail.com)

