

EXPOSURES

Springfield Photographic Society

Rich Novak passes away

Rich Novak, past president of the Springfield Photographic Society, passed away in April.

For more information, see the story on page 12.

Photo challenges

May: Quarantined

September: Dr. Seuss Sculpture Garden

October: Soft Focus

November: Jumping

December: Beads of Water

January 2021: House of Worship/Church/Temple

February: Photographers/Photographer

March: Snow Scene

April: Reflections

May: By the Sea

Meet Marie Meder

The images of Marie Meder are featured in the Member Profile this month. She is the latest member we're getting to know in Exposures. Turn to pages 2 and 3 for a look at her work.

We'd like you to participate as well. To do so, submit a short biography, a portrait and a selection of eight photos to Jim Gillen at gillenj@me.com. Size the photos as you would for the monthly exhibition.



Charlie Widdis leans over his camera and tripod, protecting them from splashing waves as he captures a seascape on the Maine coast. (Matt Stapleton photo)

Due North founders explain best ways to shoot seascapes

By JIM GILLEN

For Charlie Widdis and Matt Stapleton shooting seascapes comes naturally. Each lives about 20 minutes from the Maine coastline and they, founders of Due North Photo Expeditions, thrive on capturing the ever-changing skies over the Atlantic Ocean.

In a social-distancing Zoom presentation to the Springfield Photographic Society on April 22, they spelled out the best methods for bringing home unique photos of seascapes.

Widdis said one common method is to use a slow shutter speed to play with motion. Sometimes, he said, it is necessary to use a neutral density filter, preferably a 10-stop one, to cut the light and allow for the slow shutter speed. Obviously, the filter isn't necessary around dawn because of low light.

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SPS MEMBER PROFILE



Leading off Marie Meder's array of images are "Rainbow Basin," above, and "Blue Sky in Denali."



Marie Meder

A picture is worth a thousand words.

I remember capturing memories in high school with my Canon Sure Shot film camera.

Later, I jumped on the digital bandwagon and purchased my beloved canon PowerShot measuring 2" by 3 1/4." Eventually, when I couldn't get the images I longed for, I graduated to a DSLR.

A life-long resident of Chicopee, I spent my working career as a piano instructor at my home studio and Holyoke Community College. I hold a master's degree in piano pedagogy from the Hartt School, and a bachelor's degree from the University of Lowell.

My favorite pastimes are rail trail biking, bird watching and café hopping with my sister and my two cherished daughters.

As director of the French Heritage Center for several years, I utilized my skills while photographing events. In



2018, I published a book titled "Many Faces, One Mary," containing images of homegrown Mary Gardens (outdoor statues of Our Lady, incorporating flowers) throughout Western Massachusetts.

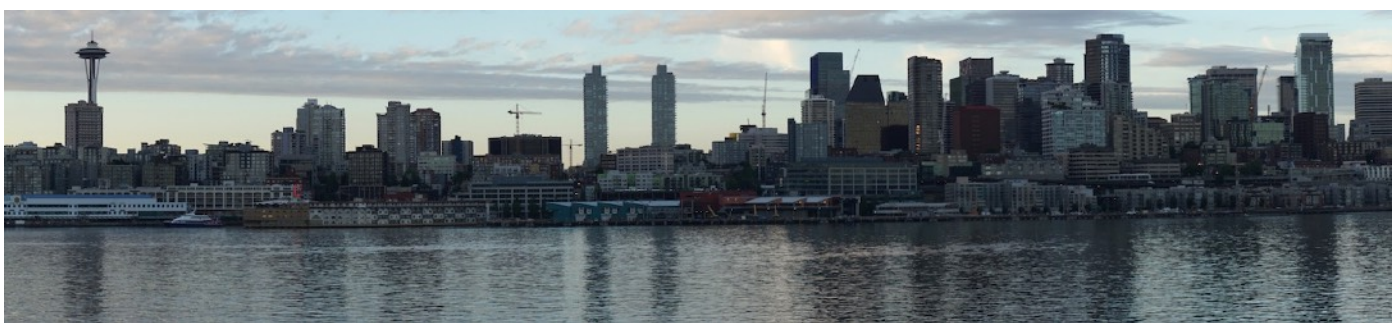
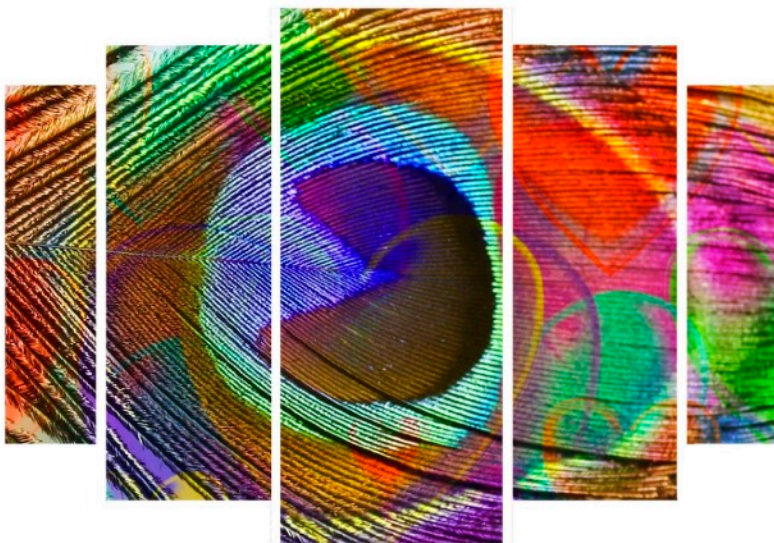
Interest in photography escalated when my husband and I embarked upon our lifelong dream of exploring America's national parks. Luckily my camera survived Yellowstone after I sighted an elk, and bursting with passion to photograph every vista, ran down a bank falling head over heels. Having my camera in hand impels me to have "eagle eyes," constantly scanning my surroundings for unique visuals to share and which will last a lifetime.

The desire to learn about my camera prompted me to join local camera clubs.

SPS has provided me the opportunity to expand my knowledge through programs and exhibitions. I am extremely grateful for the guidance and information received from club members. My favorite experience has been participating in the "43 Towns" and "Agriculture in New England" projects.

"My life is shaped by the urgent need to wander and observe, and my camera is my passport." Steve McCurry

Marie Meder



Among Marie Meder's favorite images are, clockwise from top left, "Hogback Mt., VT," "Granddaughter's Bridal Visit," "Eye of the Storm," "Organic Farming," "Seattle Skyline" and "Eye of the Peacock."

Exhibition results – Projected images for April

Judges: Rachel Bellenoit, Eileen Donelan, Barbara Krawczyk and Sylvia Pyzocha

Digital

Artistic

Sylvia Pyzocha	First Blush	27	HA
Karen Lemoine	Peggy's Lighthouse (m)	26	HM
Karen Lemoine	Nymph in Green River	26	HM
Jim Gillen	On the Range	26	HM
Rachel Bellenoit	Solitary	26	HM
Barbara Krawczyk	Tulips in a Vase	26	HM
Fred LeBlanc	Crystal City	25	
Tom Stratton	Nature's Fireworks	25	
Richard Harper	On the Lone Prairie	25	
Darlene Anderson	Colored Pencils	24	
Kevin Fay	Ginkgo Leaves	24	
Eileen Donelan	Glen Ellis Falls	24	
Marie Meder	Shades of Blue	24	
Gwen McNierney	Through the Art is Beauty	24	
Tim Donelan	WWII Fighter	23	
Amy Dane	Hung Up to Dry	22	
Al LaFleche	Arched Bridge	21	

Black and White

Kevin Fay	Acoma Village	29	HA
Amy Dane	The Encounter	28	HA
Barbara Krawczyk	Contemplating His First Move	26	HM
Richard Harper	Landscape in Arizona	26	HM
Karen Lemoine	We're Going to a Wedding (m)	25	
Tim Donelan	Arches National Park	25	
Darlene Anderson	Catching the Ferry	25	
Sylvia Pyzocha	This is the Way	25	
Joe Kruzel	Water Sculpture	25	
Gwen McNierney	Barcelona	24	
Fred LeBlanc	Crystal Ball	24	
Rachel Bellenoit	Goose Stare	24	
Jim Gillen	New Mexico Landscape	24	
Eileen Donelan	Rock in Carter Pond	24	
Karen Lemoine	Surf at Halibut Point	24	
Marie Meder	Wayside Painted Wall Memorial	22	

Challenge

Larry Sanchez	Enjoying My Moonroof	28	HA
Gwen McNierney	Red Fish, Yellow Fish, Caught Fish, Yummy Fish	26	HM
Eileen Donelan	Sheep Humor	26	HM
Barbara Krawczyk	That's a Good One, Maria	26	HM
Kevin Fay	Stuck in America's Oldest Doorway	25	
Amy Dane	What a Sucker	25	
Darlene Anderson	Cover Your Cough	24	
Tim Donelan	One Man's Opinion	24	
Dave Taupier	Walking Suitcase	24	
Rachel Bellenoit	What You Looking At	24	
Rosemary Polletta	Dearie, Who Does Your Hair	23	
Sylvia Pyzocha	Honorable Harry T. Headcomb	23	
Al LaFleche	The Rare Moonflower	23	

Stephan Platzer	FaceGlove	22
Richard Harper	Grrrrrr	22
Marie Meder	Kisses Anyone	22

General

Richard Harper	My Nephew Wins Again	28	HA
Eileen Donelan	White Anemone (m)	27	HA
Joe Kruzel	Antelope Canyon	27	HA
Tom Stratton	Coyote in the Brush	27	HA
Kevin Fay	South Turner Mt. Reflection	27	HA
Karen Lemoine	Smokies, Little River (m)	26	HM
Darlene Anderson	Feed Me	26	HM
Jim Gillen	Near the Border	26	HM
Amy Dane	Watch It Fly	26	HM
Sylvia Pyzocha	Boondocks 64th Parallel	25	
Fred LeBlanc	Cape Cod Marsh	25	
Eileen Donelan	Denali National Park	25	
Tim Donelan	Herburts Hill	25	
Joe Kruzel	Mule Train	25	
Rachel Bellenoit	Sandhill Crane	25	
Gwen McNierney	Bee	24	
Larry Sanchez	FL Bald Eagle	24	
Al LaFleche	Intertwined	24	
Barbara Krawczyk	Peekaboo!	24	
Frank Rucki	Porsche Racing	24	
Karen Lemoine	Reflected Icicles	24	
Marie Meder	Artist at Work	23	
Stephan Platzer	Barney Family Mausoleum	23	

Nature

Tom Stratton	Synchronicity	29	HA
Kevin Fay	Eagle on Snag	27	HA
Amy Dane	Tatacoa Desert, Colombia	27	HA
Rachel Bellenoit	Yellow Rumped Warbler	27	HA
Gwen McNierney	Assateague	26	HM
Jim Gillen	Bird on the Wing	26	HM
Darlene Anderson	Sunset Reflection	26	HM
Eileen Donelan	Bald Eagle at Bosque	25	
Sylvia Pyzocha	Calling For a Mate	25	
Joe Kruzel	Mountain Doe	25	
Karen Lemoine	Breakfast on the Beach (m)	24	
Larry Sanchez	FL Moorhen	24	
Barbara Krawczyk	Green and Blue Beauty	24	
Marie Meder	Twilight	24	
Stephan Platzer	Woods Hole Sunset	24	
Karen Lemoine	Big Horns in Yellowstone	23	
Al LaFleche	Mute Swan at Fannie Stebbins	23	
Richard Harper	I wonder What's So Interesting	22	
Tim Donelan	Spackling Dandelion	22	
Frank Rucki	Nice Day for a Swim	21	

Digital results from April exhibition



Artistic

Among the standouts in the Artistic category in April were, clockwise from above, "Nymph in Green River" by Karen Lemoine, "First Blush" by Sylvia Pyzocha, "Tulips in a Vase" by Barbara Krawczyk, "Colored Pencils" by Darlene Anderson, "On the Range" by Jim Gillen and "On the Lone Prairie" by Richard Harper.





Black & White

Black & White entries in April included, clockwise from above, "Acoma Village" by Kevin Fay, "Water Sculpture" by Joe Kruzel, "Contemplating His First Move" by Barbara Krawczyk, "Landscape in Arizona" by Richard Harper and "The Encounter" by Amy Dane.



Challenge: Funny/ Humor

Funny/Humor was the topic for April's challenge. Taking it on were, clockwise from right, "Enjoying my Moonroof" by Larry Sanchez, "Red Fish, Yellow Fish, Caught Fish, Yummy Fish" by Gwen McNierney, "Cover Your Cough" by Darlene Anderson, "Walking Suitcase" by Dave Taupier and "Sheep Humor" by Eileen Donelan.





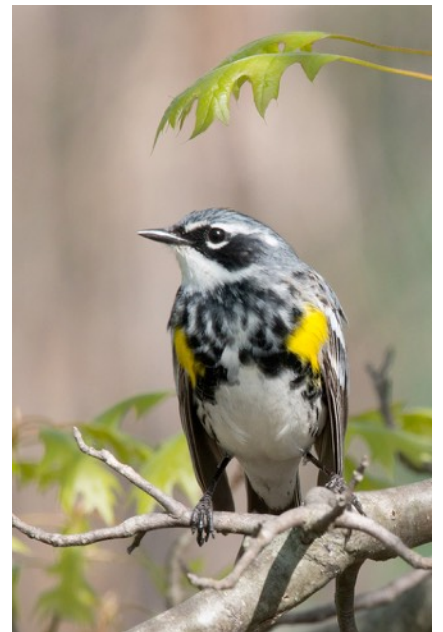
General

General category entrants included, clockwise from above, "Near the Border" by Jim Gillen, "South Turner Mt. Reflection" by Kevin Fay, "My Nephew Wins Again" by Richard Harper, "Coyote in the Brush" by Tom Stratton and "Feed Me" by Darlene Anderson.



Nature

Nature entries included, clockwise from right, "Synchronicity" by Tom Stratton, "Yellow Rumped Warbler" by Rachel Bellenoit and "Mountain Doe" by Joe Kruzell.





Matt Stapleton lines up an image as sunrise approaches along the coast of Maine. (Charlie Widdis photo)

Experts offer seascape tips

(Continued from page 1)

Next, he laid out several tips: look for motion, get a low or high angle, include a strong foreground element, don't be afraid to get wet (just protect your gear), and fill the frame with your subjects.

Among numerous other tips were these: a tripod is essential for the crucial slow shutter speeds you will be using, shoot between 1/15 of a second and 2 seconds, shoot at about 30 seconds to get cloud movement, use a remote shutter release, shoot at f11 or f16, employ an ISO of 100 or 200, shoot in the raw format, preview the shots in black & white, use a circular polarizer as needed to remove glare, and generally ignore the suggestion to use a graduated neutral density or ultraviolet filter because they could create problems.

Stapleton said photographers should learn to love live view because it makes a shot easier to focus. He cautioned against blowing out highlights. Alerts are a perfect way to avoid the problem.

One tip: Be wary of using a tripod when shooting long exposures on sand because the weight of the camera and

tripod could cause the tripod to shift during the shot. The same advice holds for shooting when waves are hitting. They can cause camera shake. And don't bother with a neutral density filter when the wind gusts above 20 mph because it will affect the tripod and your shot.

Stapleton urged shooters to slow down. Relax and work the shot. Check your settings every time you go out to avoid mistakes. Look for details. It isn't necessary to shoot the grand landscape on each outing, he said.

Of course, keep a generous supply of microfiber wipes on hand. They will be needed to clean the ocean spray from lenses. And speaking of spray, make sure you clean your gear occasionally. Sand and salt water can do a lot of damage to expensive cameras and tripods.

Even the newest cameras at times can't capture the dynamic range of a scene in a single exposure, so Photoshop and bracketing are required to bring out the best in your images. Learn to trust the histogram rather than the camera's LCD screen for best results.

Stapleton also recommended focus stacking for the best sharpness. Shoot several exposures and combine in post processing, he said.

Club mourns passing of past president Rich Novak

Rich Novak, a long-time member and past president of the Springfield Photographic Society, passed away in April.

Rich joined the club in 1973 and made numerous contributions to the club over 46 years. He served seven terms as president, for more years than anyone else in the club's 83-year history and was editor of Exposures for more than 20 years. A year ago, the club named the image of the year award the Richard A. Novak Image of the Year.



Back in the 1980s, Rich led the Springfield International Salon along with Harry Ahern, Paul Deegan and others. The slide exhibition included entries from all over the United States and beyond. Noteworthy about Rich's contributions is that they have been made at an elevated level in so

many ways. Rich organized group entries to the NECCC conference. He was a long-standing member of the NECCC board and served as the historian and memorial fund chairman. Rich organized many presentations for club members, including, on short notice, the annual end-of-year slide show.

Club President Kevin Fay said, "Most clubs will never know an individual as dedicated to their cause as we had with Rich Novak. He will be missed in so many ways."

Contributions to the NECCC Memorial Fund can be sent to Carol Reed. Write the check to Springfield Photographic Society, % Carol Reed, 395 Porter Lake Drive, Apt. 306, Longmeadow, MA 01106.

Suffield woman joins SPS

Linda Kozloski of Suffield has joined the club, bringing the membership up to 79.

Since September 2019, 12 members have joined the club, Secretary/Treasurer Carol Reed reported.

SPS Officers and Directors

Elected positions

President	Kevin Fay
Vice President (Prints)	Karen Lemoine
Vice President (Projected Images)	Larry Sanchez
Treasurer	Carol Reed
Secretary	Carol Reed
Directors	Tim Donelan, Joyce Doty, Denis Duquette, Jim Gillen, Dee Nacewicz, Guenther Schubert

Appointed positions

Judge Coordinator/Exhibition Standards	Barbara Krawczyk
Loomis Gallery Curator	Rosemary Polletta
Membership Chair	Carol Reed
NECCC Representative	Richard Harper
Newsletter Editor	Jim Gillen
Social Media	Nick DeCondio
Trip Coordinator	Open
Website Manager	Charlie Strong

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 <https://springfield-ps.com>. President Kevin Fay can be reached at kevin.fay44@gmail.com



Member