

EXPOSURES

Springfield Photographic Society

Photo challenges

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 Jim Gillen

The images of Jim Gillen are featured in the Member Profile this month. He is the latest member we're getting to know in Exposures. Turn to pages 2 and 3 for a look at his 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.

Calendar

Nov. 18	Program: 10 Tips
Dec. 30	Holiday Party
Jan. 28	Speaker: Lisa Langell
Feb. 24	Members' showcase
March 24	Speaker: Sarah Marino
April 28	Speaker: Mark Bowie
May 26	Year-end banquet

Cuchara explains Wabi Sabi method of finding beauty in imperfections

By **JIM GILLEN**

A way of living that focuses on finding beauty in the imperfections of life and accepting peacefully the impermanence of things.

That's how Lisa Cuchara, a master of photography, contributor to numerous publications and co-author of two books, defines Wabi Sabi.

Speaking at a Zoom meeting of the Springfield Photographic Society on Oct. 28, Cuchara said she and her husband, Tom, also an accomplished photographer, "just like to have fun"

shooting photos no matter where they are. And while Covid-19 has restricted travel and other activities considerably, Cuchara said she has learned to adapt and finds herself as creative as ever working on her craft at home.

Cuchara practices Wabi Sabi, the Japanese art of imperfect beauty, whereby she photographs objects not ordinarily found to be beautiful.

Instead she finds beauty in things like a wonky home-grown carrot, a crack in a ceramic bowl, a falling cherry blossom or a worn wooden hallway.

For technique, Cuchara relies a lot on focus stacking, the practice of arranging an image and shooting

several shots of the same subject while focusing close, in the middle and towards the rear and then either assembling the shots in software or relying on her Olympus gear to do it in-camera.

One of her favorite subjects would be flowers and she shoots them in full bloom to various stages of decay. In doing so, she employs a light box and uses high key to expose all parts of the flower correctly.

Cuchara sometimes shoots single-color, out-of-focus subjects to provide a pleasant background for the flowers. She employs Rain-X to clean a piece of glass, sprays it with water and places a flower in front of the water drops. And, of course, she sprays a flower with water also to achieve a beautiful image.

She uses the high-key technique with a white background and low-key with a dark background. Light painting, aiming a flash light or other light source at a subject, is another method she likes.

Looking for the inner beauty of people, Cuchara shoots black and white images of street people and others, although she admitted she has had difficulty approaching subjects.



Lisa Cuchara

(Continued on page 14)

SPS MEMBER PROFILE

Jim Gillen

Born in Manhattan, I grew up in Queens, attended high school in Brooklyn, and, in 1968, received a bachelor's degree in communication arts at Fordham University in the Bronx. So I touched base in four out of five New York City boroughs. I met my late wife, Linda, at Fordham and we were married for 50 years. While working at the newspaper, I also earned a master's degree in business administration at Western New England College.



I've lived in Hampden for more than 46 years. I came to Western Massachusetts when, after joining the Air Force in 1969, I was assigned to Westover Air Force Base. After four years at Westover, I joined the Daily News in Springfield as a reporter. Later, I became an editor, advancing to city editor and supervising upwards of 25 reporters. I retired in 2009 after a nearly 35-year career at the newspaper, now known as The Republican.

I developed an interest in photography just before joining the Air Force. I worked with a Nikon Ftn for a few years until our two daughters were born. After shooting mostly family photos for many years, I resumed my interest with a digital Canon in 2009 when I retired. I sold the Nikon to a college student. Turns out she was a Fordham student slated to graduate 50 years after I did.

For the most part, I concentrate on landscapes and wildlife, both color and black and white. I enjoy shooting more than processing, but I'm learning to do both better thanks to help from club members and guest speakers. I print and sell photo greeting cards.

I've been fortunate to have shown my photos in solo exhibits in Western Massachusetts, on Cape Cod and even in a dentist's office in Maryland. I've been posting on Facebook a photo a day for more than 215 days during the Covid-19 pandemic.

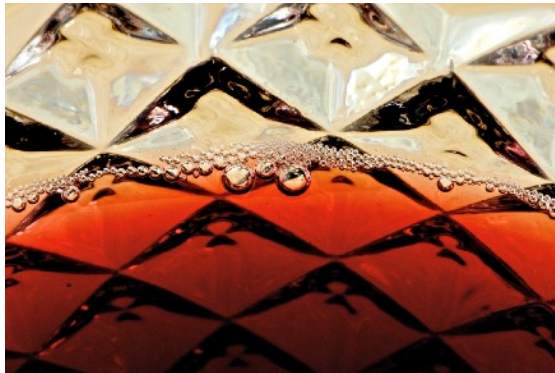
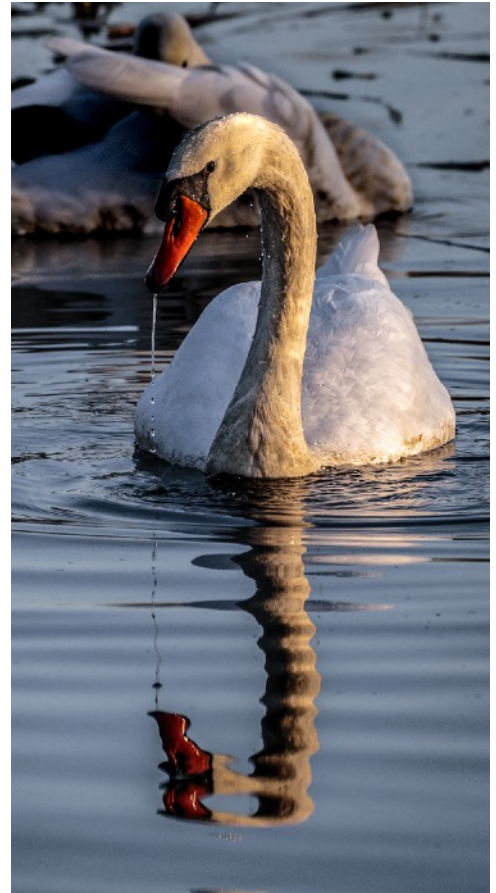
A selection of my work can be viewed at <https://jim-gillen.pixels.com>.



Among Jim Gillen's favorite photographs are "Sunburst," a scene in Harwich Port on Cape Cod, above, and "Chatham Shack."



Jim Gillen



Featured here are, clockwise from top left, "Iced," "A Swan," "In the Shadows," "Chatham Grist Mill" and "Lambrusco."

Exhibition results for print and digital entries

Print judges: Amy Dane, Eileen Donelan, Tim Donelan and Barbara Krawczyk

Prints for September and October

Artistic

Eileen Donelan	Dried Flowers Are Beautiful	30	HA
Rosemary Polletta	Fuzzy Wuzzy	27	HA
Sylvia Pyzocha	Quince at Number Sixty	27	HA
Rosemary Polletta	Iris in Bloom and Bud	26	HM
Eileen Donelan	Dried Flower Abstract	26	HM
Darlene Anderson	The Red Dahlia	26	HM
Darlene Anderson	Best Friends	25	

Large Black & White

Rosemary Polletta	August Moon	28	HA
Rosemary Polletta	Tree Mushroom	27	HA
Eileen Donelan	Heavy With Buds	26	HM
Sylvia Pyzocha	Fog and Webs	25	
Eileen Donelan	Ripple On a Leaf	25	
Darlene Anderson	Nubble Light	24	

Large Color

Rosemary Polletta	Stars, Streaks and Crescent Moon	30	HA
Rosemary Polletta	Daybreak on Lake McDonough	29	HA
Eileen Donelan	Tending the Rice	29	HA
Kevin Fay	Sunset at Nobska Light	27	HA
Eileen Donelan	Bog River Summer Scene	27	HA
Kevin Fay	Beach House	26	HM
Sylvia Pyzocha	Catching Morning Rays	25	
Darlene Anderson	Goat Island Lighthouse	25	
Darlene Anderson	Perfect Beach Day	24	

Small Black & White

Rosemary Polletta	A Slow Cheese Day	27	HA
Darlene Anderson	Sail Away	24	
Rosemary Polletta	What Was A Hot Commodity	24	
Sylvia Pyzocha	Sweet Angel	23	

Small Color

Eileen Donelan	Lotus	30	HA
Kevin Fay	Snowy Egret 1	29	HA
Sylvia Pyzocha	Bluebird on Post	27	HA
Kevin Fay	Little American Indian Dancer	27	HA
Sylvia Pyzocha	Bobolink Takes a Breather	26	HA
Darlene Anderson	Seagull Reflection	26	HA
Eileen Donelan	Plover	25	HM
Darlene Anderson	Can't Reach!	25	HM

Digital judges: Eileen Doherty, Tim Donelan, Larry Sanchez and Sylvia Pyzocha

Digital

Artistic

Linda Kozloski	Beauty Born of Mud	29	HA
Kevin Fay	Acadia Birches	28	HA

Tom Stratton	VT Star Trails	28	HA
Gwen McNierney	Wispy Wonder	27	HA
Rachel Bellenoit	A Pandemic Walk	26	HM
Steve Greenberg	Burnt Cove	26	HM
Larry Sanchez	Comet at Holland Pond	26	HM
Barbara Krawczyk	Containers of the 1830s	26	HM
Richard Harper	Just Hanging Around	26	HM
Jim Feroli	Looking Out the Window	26	HM
Eileen Doherty	Ring of Fire	26	HM
Sylvia Pyzocha	Fenway's Finest	25	
Karen Lemoine	Night Yields to Day	25	
Amy Dane	PLAY IT LOUD	25	
Dave Taupier	Reading To Dr. Seuss	25	
Tim Donelan	Abstract-100	24	
Joyce Doty	Grassy Blur	24	
Nancy Cunningham	Natural Frame of Park Hill Orchard	24	
Darlene Anderson	Photogram Flowers	24	
Jim Gillen	Soft Sunset	24	
Al LaFleche	Sitting on Top of the World	23	
Eileen Donelan	Early Fall Painting	22	

Black and White

Guenther Schubert	San Francisco de Asis	29	HA
Eileen Donelan	Toad Lily	28	HA
Tim Donelan	Enter the Haggis	27	HA
Amy Dane	Men's Handbag Workshop	27	HA
Richard Harper	Sturbridge Village	27	HA
Darlene Anderson	Waiting to Bloom	27	HA
Jim Feroli	A Seventh Inning Stretch	26	HM
Steve Greenberg	Reversing Falls Bridge	26	HM
Eileen Doherty	Splash Halo	26	HM
Kevin Fay	All Ready at Perkins Cove	25	
Megan Weiss	Contemplating Central Park	25	
Rachel Bellenoit	Fronds	25	
Sylvia Pyzocha	Got My Spot	25	
Linda Kozloski	Shell in Sunshine	25	
Denis Duquette	Barnacles	24	
Barbara Krawczyk	Braiding Hair	24	
Karen Lemoine	Farm Equipment in B&W	24	
Gail Dinsmore	Lily	24	
Joyce Doty	Scratched Bottom of Boat	24	
Jim Gillen	Tenacious II	24	
Nancy Cunningham	Winter scene	24	
Al LaFleche	Out Building	23	

Challenge

Jim Feroli	A Drop of Water Shines Like A Pearl	30	HA
Eileen Donelan	Inside the Bloom	29	HA
Joyce Doty	Eyeing What's Above	28	HA
Rosemary Polletta	A Little Chilled Aperitif	27	HA
Steve Greenberg	Acadia	27	HA
Gail Dinsmore	Soft and Sunny	27	HA
Rachel Bellenoit	Softly	27	HA
Marie Meder	A Look Inside	26	HM

(Continued on page 5)

Exhibition results for print and digital entries

(Continued from page 4)

Sylvia Pyzocha	Birch Bark Curls	26	HM
Barbara Krawczyk	Delicate White Orchid	26	HM
Darlene Anderson	Petal Soft	26	HM
Tim Donelan	Soft Focus	26	HM
Linda Kozloski	Soft Landing	26	HM
Nancy Cunningham	Sunrise in Corn Field	26	HM
Megan Weiss	Waiting to Pop	26	HM
Kevin Fay	Forest Swoosh	25	
Eileen Doherty	Soft Focus Flower	25	
Richard Harper	Soft Rose	25	
Elinor Shuman	Evening Hour	24	
Larry Sanchez	Queen Annes Lace	24	
Karen Lemoine	Spring Day	24	
Denis Duquette	Zion Fields	24	
Jim Gillen	Autumn Arrives	23	
Dave Taupier	California Kathy	23	
Guenther Schubert	Flowery Impressionism	23	
Amy Dane	Friends at the Craft Fair	21	

General

Joyce Doty	Angry Bird Pose	28	HA
Guenther Schubert	Dirt Road	28	HA
Sylvia Pyzocha	Feathery Ship	27	HA
Nancy Cunningham	Moon in Blue Sky	27	HA
Linda Kozloski	Not So Common		



“Splash Halo” by Eileen Doherty scored well in the black & white category.

Amy Dane	Common Grackle	27	HA
Eileen Doherty	The Transaction	27	HA
Jim Gillen	Working Together	27	HA
Tom Stratton	Belting Out a Tune	26	HM
Barbara Krawczyk	Foggy Morning Barn	26	HM
Joe Kruzal	Yellow and Red	26	HM
Ed Comeau	Campbell Falls	25	
Richard Harper	Fall Wall	25	
Eileen Donelan	Here Comes the Sun	25	
Denis Duquette	Temple of Literature	25	
Megan Weiss	That’s My Nose!	25	
Kevin Fay	The Pollinator	25	
Tim Donelan	Vinalhaven Docks	25	
Marie Meder	Dr. Seuss Smile	24	
Jim Feroli	High School Graduation 2020	24	
	Never Met a Pumpkin		
	I Didn’t Like	24	
Al LaFleche	Peek A BOO	24	
Rachel Bellenoit	Rosy	24	
Steve Greenberg	Somes Bridge	24	
Frank Rucki	Sunset on the Harbor	24	
Gwen McNierney	Taking a Drink	24	
Larry Sanchez	Tannery Falls	24	
Darlene Anderson	The Fishermen	24	
Karen Lemoine	Wide Open Spaces	24	
Gail Dinsmore	Pink Shoe Laces	22	

Nature

Jim Feroli	Fly Away Home	29	HA
Kevin Fay	Lotus	29	HA
Eileen Doherty	Fighting the Wind	28	HA
Rachel Bellenoit	Monarch Butterfly on Coneflower	28	HA
Richard Harper	Orange Meadowhawk	28	HA
Ed Comeau	Bears Den Whirlpool	27	HA
Megan Weiss	Cormorant in the Fog	27	HA
Eileen Donelan	House Finch	27	HA
Linda Kozloski	Junior Finds a Snack	27	HA
Tom Stratton	Vt Loon	27	HA
Tim Donelan	Fern Leaves	26	HM
Barbara Krawczyk	Smiley Coyote	26	HM
Jim Gillen	Building a Nest	25	
Darlene Anderson	Delicate Tendrils	25	
Joyce Doty	Getting Nectar for Pollen Transport	25	
Sylvia Pyzocha	I Said Git	25	
Joe Kruzal	Mother Humming Bird	25	
Karen Lemoine	Off They Go	25	
Amy Dane	Sloth or Slothful	25	
Gwen McNierney	Treasures on a Hike	25	
Steve Greenberg	Gulls	24	
Gail Dinsmore	Ice Sun	24	
Denis Duquette	Seastacks at Cannon Beach	24	
Al LaFleche	Seed Errant	24	
Larry Sanchez	Tree Swallows in Southwick	24	
Guenther Schubert	Zabriskie Point	24	
Marie Meder	Killdeer at Attention	23	
Nancy Cunningham	What you looking at?	22	

Print results from Sept. exhibition



Clockwise from top left, entries in the September print categories included "Dried Flowers are Beautiful" by Eileen Donelan, "Sunset at Nobska Light" by Kevin Fay, "August Moon" by Rosemary Polletta, "Iris in Bloom" by Rosemary Polletta, and "Fog and Webs" by Sylvia Pyzocha.

Print results from Oct. exhibition



Clockwise from above, "Stars, Streaks and Crescent Moon" by Rosemary Polletta, "The Red Dahlia" by Darlene Anderson and "Heavy With Buds" by Eileen Donelan stood out in the October print exhibition.

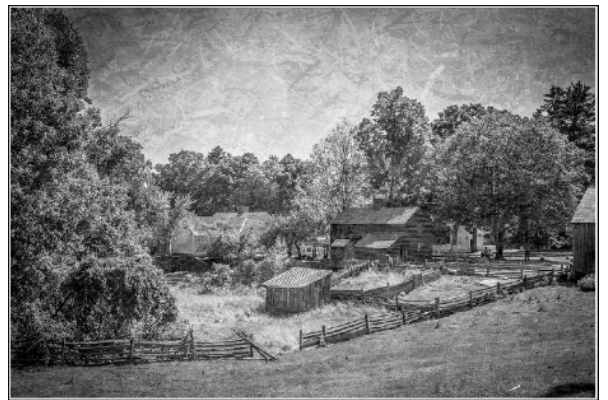
Digital results from Oct. exhibition

Artistic

"Beauty Born of Mud" by Linda Kozloski, clockwise from right, "Burnt Cove" by Steve Greenberg, "VT Star Trails" by Tom Stratton and "A Pandemic Walk" by Rachel Bellenoit were among the best digital Artistic entries in October.

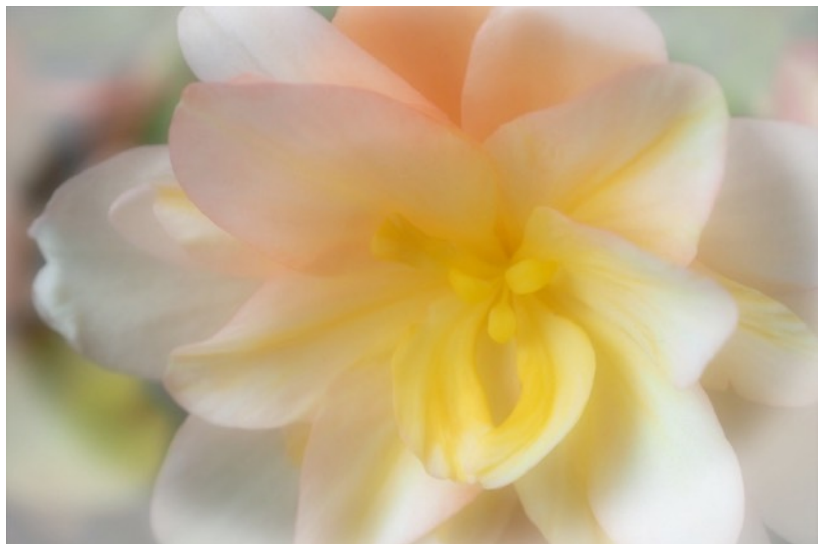
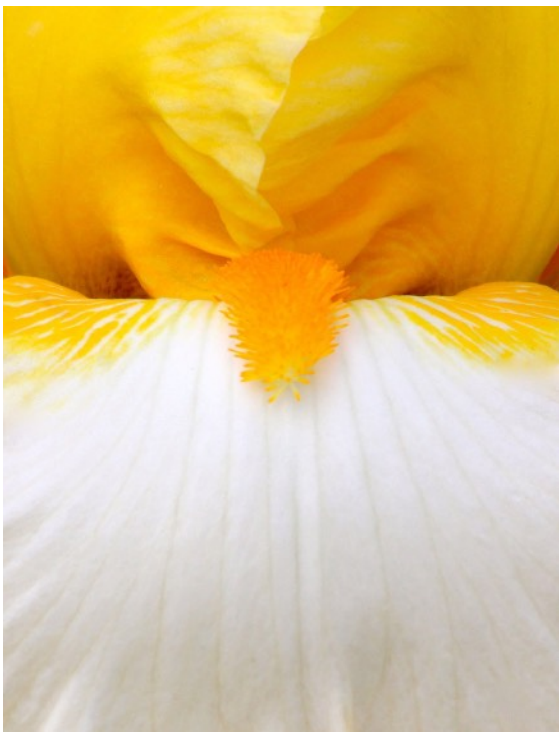


Black & White



Clockwise from top left, "Fronds" by Rachel Bellenoit, "San Francisco de Asis" by Guenther Schubert, "Sturbridge Village" by Richard Harper, "Men's Handbag Workshop" by Amy Dane and "Enter the Haggis" by Tim Donelan highlighted the October Black & White category.

Challenge: Soft focus



Some soft focus flower photography caught the attention of the judges in the October challenge of Soft Focus. Entries include, clockwise from the top, "A Drop of Water Shines Like a Pearl!" by Jim Feroli, "Soft and Sunny" by Gail Dinsmore and "A Look Inside" by Marie Meder.



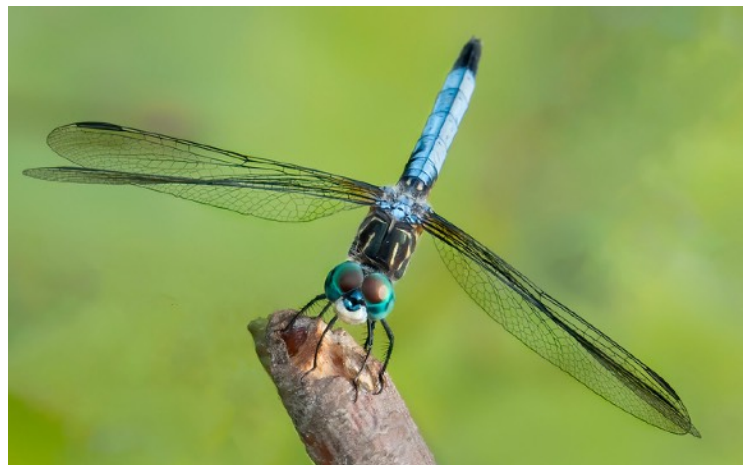
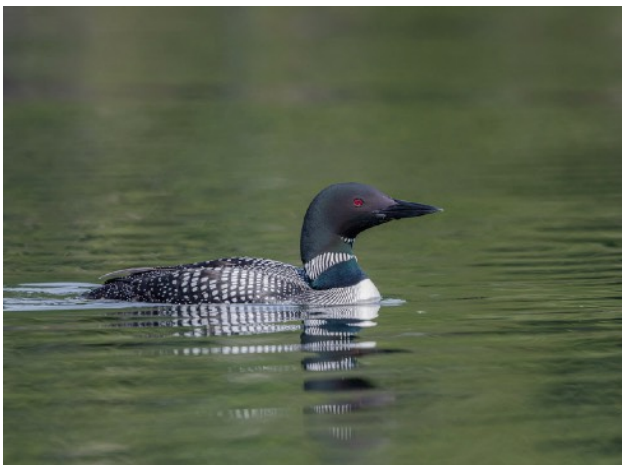
General

General entries in October included "Angry Bird Pose" by Joyce Doty, "Moon in the Blue Sky" by Nancy Cunningham, "Dirt Road" by Guenther Schubert and "Not So Common Common Grackle" by Linda Kozloski.



Nature

Nature entries included, clockwise from left, "Bears Den Whirlpool" by Ed Comeau, "Fly Away Home" by Jim Feroli, "Fighting the Wind" by Eileen Doherty, "VT Loon" by Tom Stratton, and "Junior Finds a Snack" by Linda Kozloski.



**SPRINGFIELD PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY
APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP 2020-2021**

84th Year

Part I

NAME _____

SPOUSE/PARTNER 1st NAME _____

FAMILY NAMES (family membership) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

PHONE (home) _____ (cell) _____

EMAIL _____

Membership Fees

- Individual **\$40**
 - Family **\$55**
 - High School Student **Free**
(Copy of student ID required)
- Additional Donation (Voluntary):**
- \$10**
 - Other Donation \$ _____
- I prefer to pay my dues at the historic rate:
- Individual **\$35**
 - Family **\$50**

NEW MEMBER RENEWAL

PSA MEMBER? Yes No

Part II of Membership Application

Springfield Photographic Society Field Trip Release Form

I (we), the undersigned, understand that the Springfield Photographic Society requires participants to share responsibility for their own safety and the safety of others during field trips. We hereby acknowledge that as participants in field trips we may be exposed to risks, including but not limited to, vehicular travel over land and water, foot travel over difficult terrain, and unexpected weather conditions. We may also encounter hazardous plants, wildlife, and/or insects. In the event of injury, we understand that we may face delays in reaching professional medical help. We fully accept these risks and agree to hold the Springfield Photographic Society, its officers, directors, volunteers, and agents free from any and all liability for injuries and/or loss which we may incur, directly or indirectly, while on a trip.

<i>Signature</i>	<i>Printed Name</i>	<i>In Case of Emergency (Provide a name and phone number)</i>

Please make your check payable to **Springfield Photographic Society**
Mail to SPS Treasurer **Carol Reed, 395 Porter Lake Dr. #306, Longmeadow, MA 01106**
(or bring them to the next meeting)



Two digital images from the October exhibition: "Soft Landing" by Linda Kozloski, left, and "Feathery Ship" by Sylvia Pyzocha, right.



Cuchara explains Wabi Sabi

(Continued from page 1)

She urged SPS members to remember to shoot sometimes for themselves, not judges. Learn composition, focus, exposure and other techniques from judges, but then explore and shoot images that you enjoy, she said.

Learn more about Cuchara and her husband at www.photographybylisandtom.com.

FOR SALE

Canon 7D Mark II

Excellent condition. A great, pro-level camera optimized for action photography. Shutter count is 8,929 (4% of expected life of 200,000). It has a 20MP APS-C CMOS sensor. Specs: 10 fps burst rate, 65-point AF system, 1/8000 of a second shutter speed, 1080p video. Well-suited for all kinds of photography. Includes two batteries and battery/grip, 64GB CF card, 16GB SD card, BlackRapid strap, manual. \$900. Contact Jim Gillen, gillenj@me.com.

SPS Officers and Directors

Elected positions

President	Kevin Fay
Vice President (Prints)	Dee Nacewicz
Vice President (Projected Images)	Larry Sanchez
Treasurer	Carol Reed
Secretary	Carol Reed
Directors	Tim Donelan, Joyce Doty, Denis Duquette, Jim Gillen, Richard Harper, 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, usually 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, are now conducted on Zoom. The SPS website is <https://springfield-ps.com>. President Kevin Fay can be reached at kevin.fay44@gmail.com



Member