

The Grand Canyon Photography Club



Israel Travelogue

Greg & Sharon Lewis share images from the Holy Land

Professional photographers Greg and Sharon Lewis, who operate Lewis Photo Concepts in Vestal, NY, will present a travelogue of their trip to Israel for the February 9 meeting of the Grand Canyon Photo Club. The 7 p.m. meeting at the Gmeiner Art Center in Wellsboro is open to the public.

Greg and Sharon are both avid photographers who enjoy working together. They have done weddings and portraits at their studio since it opened in 1994 and are currently photographing children, families and high school seniors. "Corporate headshots have been a staple of the business," Greg noted, "but we are looking to do more for models, actors and beauty."

"Scriptures seemed to come alive as we visited historic and biblical sites....where David met Goliath, where Jesus delivered the sermon on the mount, the site of the crucifixion--a bus depot is there--and many of these were not more than 100 yards or so apart."

~Greg Lewis



©Greg Lewis

Both entered the professional photography arena after a career in health care. Greg is a Registered Technologist in Radiography; Sharon is a Registered Nurse. Greg did forensic imaging in Dade County, Miami as well as Ophthalmic Photography in Miami, Albany, NY, and Philadelphia.

They opened their studio in 1994 and joined the Southern Tier Professional Photographers where both Sharon and Greg have served terms as president. Greg was president in 2000 & 2001 and Sharon in 2011 & 2012. Additionally, Greg served as president of the Professional Photographers Society of New York State in 2011-2012. Visit their website at www.lewisphotoconcepts.com.

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- Exhibits: Bruce Dart
- Website: Mia Lisa Anderson
- Publicity: Lonny Frost

For more information, please contact:
Mia Lisa Anderson
E-mail: president@gcphotoclub.org

President's Message

At our January meeting we began this quarter's theme of Composition by discussing Visual Mass/Visual Weight. Using David Duchemin's e-book "Drawing the Eye," we learned that certain parts of our photos draw our eyes before other parts. As photographers, knowing what elements our viewers will look at first can help us to create more compelling compositions.

This month, Mr. Greg Lewis will be our featured speaker. I'm sure you will enjoy his presentation of images from Israel, but don't simply enjoy them. As you look at the photos, pay attention to their composition and think about some of the principles from our Visual Mass discussion.

What is my eye drawn to in a particular image? Do I know why? Is it the biggest element in the photograph? The sharpest? Am I drawn to the contrast in his images? Why do I like some images more than others?

As you begin to realize what draws your eye in others' photos, you'll become more aware of potential distractions within the frame as you compose your own. In March, we will explore another method for enhancing composition—effective use of software tools.

Learn, practice, and most of all, have fun.

Mia



*When you want to learn, your more faithful teacher isn't praise but constructive feedback from someone who is making art that's stronger than yours.
~David duChemin*

To learn more about Visual Mass, here are the links from Mia's presentation in January:

<http://craftandvision.com/collections/composition/products/drawing-the-eye>

<http://photography.tutsplus.com/articles/pulling-the-eye-visual-mass-and-composition--photo-5521>

<http://digital-photography-school.com/composition-balance-and-visual-mass/>

<http://www.ultimate-photo-tips.com/photography-rules-of-composition.html>



Minutes for January 12, 2016

The January 12, 2016 meeting was held despite our first measurable snow storm of the season. In total, 15 members and 3 guests braved the slippery roads to attend the meeting.

We heard our new president Mia Lisa Anderson talk about and show images teaching us the concept of “visual mass.” We learned what we are drawn to when we view a photograph. Mia studied the book *Drawing the Eye* by David DuChemin to help her develop the program. (www.craftandvision.com) (Members with Facebook accounts can like the page “Craft and Vision” to get a steady stream of photography tidbits.) Mia shared some other websites that discuss visual mass or weight. Mostly we learned just what seems to pull or attract the eye when viewing an image. The fact that we are drawn to people in an image is one example of visual mass. As photographers we should find much value in using these concepts in our compositions. At the end of her presentation Mia treated us to a 10-minute video of David DuChemin talking about visual mass. The YouTube video reinforced what Mia has been telling us about being life-long

learners: There is so much to discover on the Internet. Mia also reminded us to turn off our phones as a courtesy to our presenters.

We had a short break to enjoy snacks prepared by Sandy Foor and drinks provided by Nancy Bickham.

Gary Thompson led a critique of 25 images sent in by our members. The topic/concept was in keeping with our theme of composition. The members explored ways to incorporate the “rule of thirds” in their work. Images ranged from water lilies with one bloom placed at an intersection of the lines of thirds to Blue Angels powering into the wild blue yonder along one line of thirds. Gary did alter a few.

Respectfully submitted,
Paul Bozzo



©Ken Meyer

A Note About the Cover Photo by David Ralph & Linda Sichel

A Christmas Cactus inherited from my mother. Final crop by Linda for our 2015 Christmas mailing. What makes it “pop” is making the out-of-focus green background deep black. I used the “Colorize” tool of Nik Color Efex Pro 3. One simply places a Nik “color control point” on the background for an automatic mask. Using the eyedropper in Color Efex, select deep black from the drop-down palette. Click again, and the background is deep black. Sidelighting from a window. The flower is brightened, sharpened and saturated in a variety of ways to contrast with the black. Nikon D300 on tripod, c. 1980 105mm f/4 manual Nikkor, @ f/5.6, 1/5 sec., base ISO, center weighted average metering.

Treasurer’s Report for January 2016

Beginning Balance	\$1348.68
Cash IN	
2016 dues	375.00
Cash OUT	0.00
Ending Balance	\$1723.68

Respectfully Submitted,
Gary Thompson, Treasurer



Ann-eclodes

Ann Kamzelski presents tips, techniques, and creative ideas for getting great photos.



Over and Over

Many of us have favorite places that we visit over and over again. They are locations that just “speak” to us. We enjoy being there. The same holds true with certain photographic subjects. You find yourself taking shots of the same thing over and over again. You just can’t help yourself. There is just some subliminal attraction that you have.

Professional nature photographer Russ Burden, who I had the pleasure of going to the Colorado high country with last year, says he is often asked about being bored with traveling to the same locations time again for his workshops. He says that every time he goes somewhere he always finds something new or different to photograph. The idea is to challenge yourself and find different compositions or lighting to make new and better images of the subject.



In Florida, the subject that shows up in my portfolio every year is the “Honeymoon Cottage” (or what is left of it). I looked back through my files to see how many different ways I have photographed this Cedar Key icon. My love affair began in 2006 when billowing storm clouds behind the structure were lit by the afternoon sunset. I have only witnessed that one other time and it was not as dramatic.



When I started thinking about the subjects that I repeatedly come back to, in Wellsboro it is insects. I just love to go to my pond on a cool dewy morning and find dragonflies, damselflies, butterflies, spiders, grasshoppers or whatever other little critters I can spy. I used to shoot them where I found them, but now as many of you know; I move them to better locations and pose them of available plants and flowers. I even change the background and lighting at well as play with different compositions. Not only has this helped me with maintaining my interest in photographing these tiny creatures, it has improved my technique.

The following winter, I discovered that the sun rises behind the cottage in December and January.



Several years and tons of photos later, in 2011 I got a lovely image of a pastel sunrise with the new moon.



Later that year, it was time for shots in the fog.



In May of 2012, I photographed the full moon rising behind the building. Then on Christmas Eve morning of that year, I captured one of most spectacular sunrises I have ever seen. The cottage was now in almost total disrepair, a significant change in only six months.



By now, I thought that I had taken every imaginable shot of the building. Then this past December, on my way to photograph the yearly boat parade, I got yet another different photo of the cottage. I had never thought of it as a sunset location, but for some reason that night, the entire western sky was filled with color. All that remains now are the pilings, but I still am thrilled to get an additional shot of "one of my favorite subjects" for my files. I will probably keep taking photographs of it until one of us is gone.



So don't get upset because you gravitate to the same subject. Look for new and unusual ways to capture it. You can actually make it a goal to find different options for the old classic. Remember, if you are attracted to certain objects or places, you will probably do a better job of taking images because you will want the photos to come out well.

Visit Ann's website at <http://photoartbyann.com>
Text and images by Ann Kamzelski



©Paul Bozzo



January Critique: Rule of Thirds



©Mia Lisa Anderson



©Judith Giddings



©Rhonda Keller



©Bill Giddings



©Lonny Frost



©Ann Kamzelski



©Gary Thompson



©Jack Preston



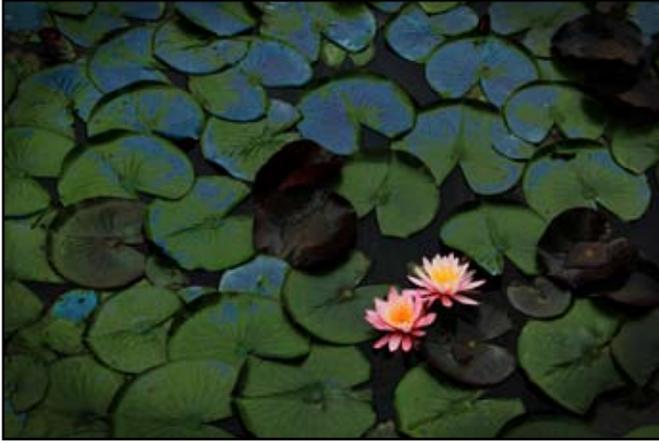
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©Russ Dodson



©Lee Hoar



©Suzan Richar



©Karin Meyer



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©Gabrielle Knott



©Jerry Crawford



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©Dwayne Gipe



©Sharon Connolly



GCPC 2016 Calendar of Events

Meetings are at 7 p.m. on the 2nd Tuesday of every month at the Gmeiner Art & Cultural Center unless otherwise noted.

Mini-solo Shows at the Native Bagel, Central Avenue, Wellsboro: February, Suzan Richar & Max Johnson; March, open; April, Bernadette Chiamonte-Brown; May, open; June, Nancy Bickham; July, Ann Kamzelski & Jan Keck.

The Warehouse Theatre: Various members.

FIRST QUARTER: COMPOSITION

February 9 - Greg & Sharon Lewis, *Israel Travelogue*; Critique Leader, Gary Thompson, Theme, *Dark/Light, Light/Dark*.

March 8 - Mia Anderson, *Compositional Post Processing*; Critique Leader, Gary Thompson, Theme, *Compositional Guides (pick one): Framing, Balance, Repetition/Patterns*.

SECOND QUARTER: EXPOSURE

April 12 - Bruce Dart, *Exposure Basics*.

May 10 - Hands-on workshop, *Exposure Situations*, Everyone brings camera; no critique.

June 14 - Workshop at Ann Kamzelski's, no critique.

THIRD QUARTER: LIGHT

July 12 - Gary Thompson, Introduction to Lighting, Types of Light.

August 9 - Bruce Dart, *Flash Photography*; Theme, *Types of light (choose one): Backlighting, Side, Front*.

September 13 - Light Painting; Theme, *Light As the Subject*.

FOURTH QUARTER: SHUTTER SPEED

October 11 - Shutter speed- What is it and what does it do?

November 8 - Year recap: We've learned all this. What else could we do?

December 13 - Holiday party; Member slideshow.

Please contact Bruce Dart at bdphoto@ptd.net if you are interested in displaying your photos at the Native Bagel or if you have images suitable for display at the Warehouse Gallery.

Mystery Macro

How observant are you?

What is this?
Send your guess to
wgiddings@epix.net



©Bruce Dart

Jan Keck & Al Quimby
guessed this subject of
this humorous photo:
A horse!



©Maggie Holmes

There were several
wrong guesses for Joe the
yawning horse:
Cow (3 guesses), Camel,
& Boston Terrier.
What fun!



February 9 Meeting At a Glance

Program: Greg & Sharon Lewis,
Israel Travelogue

Critique Leader, Gary Thompson,
Theme, *Dark/Light or Light/Dark*

Snacks: Paul Bozzo

Beverages: Wolfram Jobst

2016 Club Dues Are Now Being Accepted

Please bring your cash or check (payable to GCPC) to the February meeting or send your dues to the GCPC treasurer:

Gary Thompson
285 Owen Hollow Road
Big Flats, NY 14814

Individual: \$20.00

Family: \$35.00

Check Out These Websites

Two Rivers Photography Club Teach-In: Tim Cooper, "The Art of Landscape Photography:"

Get the details on the March 12-13 weekend event in Vestal, NY (Binghamton University). Looks like a great opportunity!

<http://www.2rpc.com>

Realistic HDR Photography with Tim Cooper:

A sneak peek at the Two Rivers Teach-In (see link above) speaker, Tim Cooper. Video on how to capture the full range of detail in shadows and highlights using the correct exposures for high dynamic range photos. Don't just accept your camera's default HDR settings.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TmRFpM_j8RY

Rent Photography Gear from Borrow Lenses:

Are you itching to try out the latest photo gear but want to give it a test run first? Need a special lenses for an upcoming event but it's too pricey to purchase? Check out what's available to rent at Borrow Lenses.

<https://www.borrowlenses.com>



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