

## Club Meetings

Unless otherwise specified, all meetings will be held online with the GoToMeeting app using the following link:

<https://www.gotomeet.me/LPhotographicSociety>

**Saturday, December 12**

**Photo Bull Session**  
8:30–10:30 AM

**Monday, December 14**  
**Monthly Club Meeting**  
6:30–8:30 PM

**Monday, December 21**  
**Photo Review Session**  
6:00–8:00 PM

**Tuesday, January 5**  
**LPS Board Meeting**  
*Open to All*  
6:30 PM

Join the meeting via desktop computer, laptop, or smartphone to see and interact with other participants. Please mute your microphone except when you are speaking.

## December Meeting Agenda

### LPS PHOTOS TO BE THE DECEMBER FOCUS

BY ARDETH CARLSON, EDITOR

As is traditional for the LPS December meeting, there will not be a speaker presentation for this get-together. But unlike our December tradition, there will also not be an in-person get-together, due to the pandemic that has overtaken our nation (and, indeed, much of the world) and has characterized the mess that has been 2020!

Lorie Smith will finish her term as LPS competition chair by presenting a slideshow of the December photo submissions, including the “2020 Best Of” competition for December and all of the photos submitted by members for our special December feature of “My Favorite Photo,” which will not be judged and are presented simply for our enjoyment.

For the December competition, Lorie has recruited an outside judge, Joanne Stolte, whose bio appears on page 2 of this newsletter. Ms. Stolte will be attending our online meeting and will speak generally about what constitutes a winning photograph and a bit about her photography journey. She will be commenting on the best-of-show and award-of-merit winning images in each category, and if time allows, she will also comment briefly on other photos.

Feel free to bring your cookies and hot chocolate (or other!) to our virtual meeting, but please mute your microphone to avoid extraneous noises!

LPS extends heartfelt thanks to Jeanie Sumrall-Ajero and Lorie Smith for their outstanding service as program chair and competition chair in 2020 and their competence in dealing with the difficulties presented by the coronavirus restrictions.



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## LPS Board of Directors

PRESIDENT

— KURT FLOCK

VICE PRESIDENT

— OPEN

TREASURER

— SANDY LOUCKS

SECRETARY

— SCOTT SPRAIN

PROGRAMS

— JEANIE SUMRALL-AJERO

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— SANDY LOUCKS

COMPETITION

— LORIE SMITH

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— MIKE WILCOX

FORUM DIRECTOR

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PUBLICITY

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SCHOLARSHIPS

— RUTH SPRAIN

NEWSLETTER

— ARDETH CARLSON

WEBMASTER

— BILL SHANAHAN

PSA REPRESENTATIVE

— LISA SCHNELZER

# InFocus

The e-Newsletter for the  
Loveland Photographic Society

## Mailing Address

P. O. Box 7604 • Loveland, CO 80537

## Public Facebook Page

[https://www.facebook.com/  
LovelandPhotographicSociety/](https://www.facebook.com/LovelandPhotographicSociety/)

## Members Only Facebook Group

[https://www.facebook.com/  
groups/237033251716/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/237033251716/)

### Submitting Pictures for the Monthly Competition or Photo Review Session

- Log on to the LPS.CC website
- Mouse over the **Competitions** dropdown on the Home Page.
- Select menu item:  
**Submit images to a Competition**
- Select the Competition category or the Third Monday Photo Review
- At the bottom of the screen, click on **Upload images into the Competition.**
- Then click on the button **Select** which will open a window on your computer to select an image.
- Click on **Save Images and Proceed to Edit Page.**
- Type in a title and click on **Save any changes and return to original page.**
- You can replace any photo, up to the submission deadline, if desired.

The monthly competitions allow a single image per category. The photo review session allows up to three images. Include your last name in the title; this will allow us to limit the number of images if it is necessary.

## December Competition Guest Judge

The competition photographs for the month of December will be judged by Joanne Stolte, who has extensive experience judging nationally and Internationally through Photographic Society of America.

Ms. Stolte has a number of credentials in the photographic world. She earned the "Proficiency" distinction (PPSA) in 2002. She received the PSA Early Achievement Award in 2003 and the Joseph P. Fallon, Jr. Memorial Award in 2004. In 2007 she was recognized for her photographic "Excellence" (EPSA) and was elected an Associate (APSA). She received the "Master" distinction (MPSA) in 2011 and was elected a Fellow (FPSA) in 2012. Joanne has earned two PSA Editorial Silver Stars and the Ruby PSA Membership Star Plaque.

She is a member of Exploring Light, was President of the Southern California Council of Camera Clubs (S4C) from 2002 to 2009, and has been General Chair of the S4C International Exhibition since 2001. For her extensive service to S4C, she was awarded an Honorable S4C in 2008. Joanne received the Artiste distinction (AFIAP) in 2008 and the Excellence distinction (EFIAP) in 2013 from the Federation Internationale de L'art Photographique. She is a respected international judge, judging, for example, the Welsh, the Great British Small Print Circuit, Fotoferia, PSA China, Polish, the Holland Circuit, Gia Dinh (Vietnam), and AC-FOTO German Mega Circuit.



Joanne has served as Chair of the PSA Photojournalism Division (PJD); the PJD representative, PSA Uniform Practices Committee; Chair, PSA Membership Retention Committee; Director, Introductory Color Slide Competition for Individuals; and PSA Journal News Editor, Color Slide Division.

Joanne served on the PSA Board of Directors as Membership Vice President from 2005 to 2010 and as Information Systems Vice President from 2010 to 2011. She created and developed the PSA Region webpages, the PSA New Member website, the PSA Club Services website, PSA Automatic Membership Renewal, the Give the Gift of PSA program, the PSA Show Your Stuff Gallery, many Region Director Resources, and served as Webmaster for the PSA website from 2010 to 2012. She served on the PSA Strategic Planning Committee.

Joanne is Chair of the Southern California Roundup Chapter of PSA and the PID Photo Essay Contest. She serves on the PSA Nominating, International Understanding Through Photography (IUTP) Award, and Projected Image Collections Committees. For her exceptional service to PSA she received the President's Award in 2009. She was elected Honorary PSA (HonPSA) in 2018.

She will be joining us online for the December meeting and will share comments on the winning photographs in each category, including other comments as time allows. This will add an educational dimension to the meeting and an interesting end to the 2020 year for LPS.

## Dan Kozlowski Named as New LPS President

The LPS Board is very happy to announce that Dan Kozlowski will be assuming the office of president of the Loveland Photographic Society, beginning in January 2021. Dan has been a member of LPS since 2013. He attended the November board meeting and will be ready to step into this important role as we move into a new year with many unknowns.

The bylaws state that when the president is unable to continue the duties of office, the vice president takes over those duties. As of now, we have no volunteers for vice president.

In January of 2019, Kurt Flock took on the office of president, with Kevin Fettig serving as vice president. In January of 2020, Kurt and Kevin switched roles, with Kevin as president and Kurt as vice president. Halfway through the year, a change in personal circumstances necessitated Kevin's resignation, and Kurt once again was president for the remainder of 2020. This illustrates the importance of having a vice president not only to chair occasional board meetings when the president is unable to attend but also to step in should unforeseen circumstances arise. The management team encourages LPS members to consider volunteering for this office for 2021.

We owe a great deal of thanks to outgoing president Kurt Flock for his willingness to fill the office of president twice during the last two years.

An introduction to our incoming president, Dan Kozlowski, is included on page 5 of this InFocus newsletter.

## Program Chair Still Needed

As of the time of publication of this newsletter, the office of LPS Program Chair still has not been filled.

The primary objective of the program chair is to obtain quality presenters for the monthly meetings from January through November each year.

The contact process is usually by email. Many professionals jump at the chance to talk about their craft and their projects. The process of obtaining good speakers may include asking LPS club members for suggestions, communicating with other clubs for recommendations, reading photographic related material to search out professionals and educators, and visiting websites on topics of interest to the club.

Outgoing program chair Jeanie Sumrall-Ajero has a short list of speakers she has been in contact with as a good starter for an incoming chairperson or persons. She would encourage two or more members to take over this position both to work together to find and contact speakers and set up the monthly presentation and to be backup when needed.

If none of our members volunteer to take over this job for the club, the January meeting will be primarily a slideshow of the competition entries and a general open discussion of the direction LPS should go in the future.



MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

## Easy Access to Videos of Meeting Presentations

BY JEANIE SUMRALL-AJERO  
PROGRAM CHAIR

All of the videos from our virtual meetings this year are now easily accessible from the LPS website. (July's meeting is missing because it was not recorded.) Simply **login** to the LPS website, then go to **Membership>Resource Links>Videos**.

Please note that most of the videos are marked as "Unlisted" on YouTube because our speakers graciously allowed us to record their presentations as long as they were made available to LPS members only. Please *do not share* the links with non-members unless they are marked as shareable on the Videos page.

- 2020 LPS Competition Categories  
J.R. Schnelzer
- Photographing Storms & Severe Weather  
Cory Reppenhagen
- Start-to-Finish Post-Processing  
Ben Strauss
- Nature First, the Alliance for Responsible Nature Photography  
Scott Bacon
- Macro/Close-up Photography: The Joy in the Little Things  
Colleen Miniuk
- Time Lapse Photography  
Jonathan Irvin
- Let's Talk About Photography & the Law  
Ruth Carter
- Printing Your Photography: The Challenges, Rewards & Solutions  
Matt Payne



# Competition Corner

## December Competition

Best of...Open Projected  
Best of...Nature Projected  
Best of...Travel

## Submission Deadline

Before Midnight, Monday, December 7

## Please keep the judging criteria in mind:

**Impact and Viewer Interest**—"Wow" factor is the nebulous quality where an image "pops." This subjective aspect of judging should not preempt the technical or composition aspects of an image.

**Composition**—Good composition is a pleasing arrangement of the elements in an image. There are many guidelines for good composition that judges may consider.

**Technical Quality**—This includes sharpness, focus, color, tonal scale, contrast, appropriate depth of field and other qualities. Consideration is also given for the effect the photographer was trying to achieve such as high key, multiple exposure, or selective focus.

**Monthly Topics**—The subject matter should be related in some manner to the topic. While there are no formal deductions or penalties, judges may reduce their overall score if they feel the image does not align with the monthly topic. With that said, creative interpretation is encouraged.

**Open Projected**—The image must begin as a photograph. From there, it is up to you. Any photograph may be entered in the Open Projected category.

## December Submissions

BY LORIE SMITH, COMPETITION CHAIR

Our December end-of-year competition has been a "Best of" for quite some time, and we want to continue that tradition. Members should submit images that they have entered in competition anytime during 2020, whether or not those images won an award.

You may submit one image in each of the three categories, Open, Nature, and Travel. You will submit your images in your *current* level (Basic, Intermediate, Advanced, Masters, Masters 2) even if it's different from the level at which you originally submitted that image. We had two months when the monthly theme was Monochrome; please enter those images in the Open category.

A special feature of the December meeting this year is a **My Favorite Image** category, which will not be judged. We would really like everyone to participate! This will be an opportunity to share with other LPS members and celebrate the individual expression of our shared love of photography. Enter any one image that is a favorite of yours (your own image, of course!). **Enter even if you have never entered a competition before.** Entries for this part of the December meeting can be made via the regular drop-down menu under "Submit Images to a Competition" on the LPS website.

These images will be displayed at our December meeting and on our website, along with the photos in the "Best of" categories.

## New Competition Chair

Jeff Stephenson will be taking on the responsibilities of competition chair beginning in January 2021. Jeff joined LPS in February of 2017 and has been active in LPS competitions since then. Mike Teska will also be combining efforts with Jeff. As the moderator of the Third Monday review sessions, Mike uses the same Visual Pursuits software used by the competition chair, so Mike will be available to back up Jeff when needed. Jeff will be joining the board of directors to replace outgoing competition chair Lorie Smith.

Jeff's bio will be included in the January 2021 InFocus newsletter.

## New Members

Welcome to new member Joanie Pettigrew, who has joined the Loveland Photographic Society since the last newsletter was published.

## Members Moving Up in Competition Level

Congratulations to the following members:

Sterling Brody to Advanced  
Mike Teska to Masters  
Roger Good to Masters 2

## Member Profile

### Dan Kozlowski

After a 35-year managerial career in the automotive business, I retired in 2011 to pursue my interest in photography. I purchased a DSLR and studied advanced photography, utilizing numerous online courses.



Eventually I was able to connect with a local professional photographer who was willing to let me shadow her and receive some personal training. She was instrumental in the development of my professional portrait business. I began photographing family and friends until I felt confident about my skills and talent. By utilizing feedback, I continued improving, and my business grew.

By encouraging my clients through humor and using quips and tricks, I have given my clients the freedom to be authentic, and we always have a little fun in the process.

In 2013 my wife retired, and we decided to relocate to Colorado from Upstate New York to be closer to our children and grandchildren.

I joined LPS in 2013. My real interest has always been pursuing family photography. I also enjoy landscape and nature photography, and living in Colorado provides me many opportunities for some great photos.

We had been exploring Colorado for a number of years and continue to explore new areas every year. We are on an adventure. Hopefully next year we will continue to expand our travel to nearby states.

I have been a member of the Youth Showcase Committee for several years, covering Longmont Schools. I find it to be a truly rewarding experience and enjoy working with Ruth Sprain and other committee members.

One of my most memorable moments was two years ago when a teacher at Frederick High School invited me to take over her class for a period to talk about photography and answer questions. It was a very enjoyable and gratifying experience, and I had a ball doing it.

You can see more of my work at [www.kozphoto.com](http://www.kozphoto.com).

*Dan is the incoming president of LPS in 2021.*



*Ordinary Life in D Minor*



*Great Sand Dunes*



## So You Want to See a Castle?

Europe has its grand centuries-old castles—Colorado has its very own slightly less grandiose but definitely more quirky castle in Rye, a very small town southwest of Colorado City in Pueblo County. LPS member Ed Ogle visited there in October and has recommended it for photographers who are willing to take a bit of a risk!

This amazing structure is built of stone, metal, and glass, a one-man project of Jim Bishop, who purchased 2½ acres for \$450 in 1959, a deal signed for by his parents as he wasn't yet old enough (age 15) to sign the legal documents! Initially in 1969, he and his father began building a stone cabin for Jim and his wife, Phoebe. At that time Jim was 25 years of age. He learned welding and ironwork from the family's Bishop Ornamental Iron shop. By 1972, Jim decided the cottage should be a castle, and his father bowed out! According to the Bishop Castle website, Jim has handled every stone in the building of the castle. Three stories of rooms, stairs, and bridges comprise the structure, which currently stands a total of 160 feet high, including a 30-foot steeple and a metal fire-breathing dragon, but is still under construction. The building costs have been financed in part by donations of materials and contributions by visitors touring the castle.

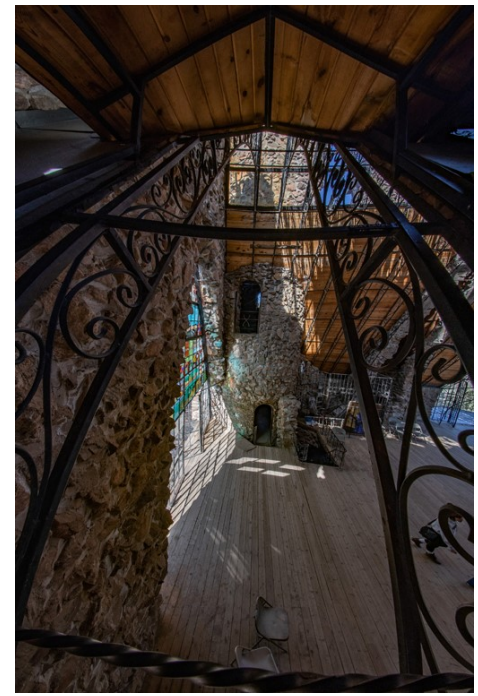
Various reports state that the builder is a man of strong opinions often “stated bluntly,” and RoadsideAmerica.com cautions that parents should be aware of rough language! CAUTION: No building codes have been observed during any of the construction, and Ed states he doesn't feel it's very safe and probably would not go up to the top again! Signs expressly state that visitors enter at their own risk.

Comments on TripAdvisor do suggest that the faint of heart can still enjoy seeing the castle without venturing up to the heights.

The castle is open seven days a week from May through October and on weekends in November through April. There is parking on the shoulder of the road only, and the bathroom facilities are provided via portable potties; admission is free.

The castle website provides fascinating details about the builder's dream and carrying out of that dream, and you can get an idea of the climb up those stairs on this YouTube video, “Exploring super sketchy Bishop's Castle in Colorado,” [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VZKI3egDzOU&ab\\_channel=LoneStarDrift](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VZKI3egDzOU&ab_channel=LoneStarDrift)

*Photos by Ed Ogle, 8mm fisheye lens  
(more on his Facebook page)*



## PSA Interclub Competitions

LPS is a member club of the Photographic Society of America and participates in three divisions of interclub competition: nature, print, and travel. There are three rounds of competition per season, with deadlines on November 15, February 15, and April 15.

For the **nature and travel divisions**, each club can submit up to six images by six different members in each round. Photos should be in JPG format with dimensions of horizontal no greater than 1400 pixels and vertical no greater than 1050 pixels.

In the **pictorial print division**, there are five image categories: large color, small color, large mono, small mono, and creative altered reality. Participating clubs can submit up to four prints by four different members in each category at each round.

The LPS reps are reaching out to members whose images they have noted in LPS competitions as well as in social media like Facebook but also welcome submissions by all members of the club. Photographers who are members of more than one club can only submit a specific image for one of the clubs.

LPS members who are interested in having their photos considered for our club's submissions to a PSA interclub competition can contact the LPS rep for more details.

### NATURE DIVISION:

**Ardeth Carlson, LPS Rep**  
[ardeth.carlson@gmail.com](mailto:ardeth.carlson@gmail.com)

Nature Division (ND) image guidelines can be seen at <https://psa-photo.org/index.php?divisions-nature-interclub-competition>. Ardeth is looking for images that illustrate an interesting behavior or a unique point of view, not just a landscape or wildlife that is in good focus! Storytelling is an important part of the image.

### PICTORIAL PRINT:

**Lisa Schnelzer, LPS Rep**  
[lisaschnelzer@gmail.com](mailto:lisaschnelzer@gmail.com)

Description of the five image categories in the Pictorial Print Division (PPD) can be found on the PSA website: <https://psa-photo.org/index.php?divisions-pictorial-print-interclub-competition-entering-rules>. For further information regarding the size of prints, etc., contact Lisa.

### TRAVEL DIVISION:

**Rich Krebs, LPS Rep**  
[rkrebs318@gmail.com](mailto:rkrebs318@gmail.com)

A definition of a travel photo and a PDF of the Travel Division (PTD) guidelines can be found at <https://psa-photo.org/index.php?divisions-photo-travel>. Rich wants images that show characteristic features of a place or a people that is identifiable by anyone familiar with that location.

The club reps will notify you when they use one of your photos for our entries in a round, and you will be asked to sign and return a consent form allowing your photo to be posted on the PSA website. This is not required for entry but is required if you win an award and want your photo to be displayed online. This form is in effect for three years, but a separate consent is required for each of the three divisions.



## Member Submissions Request

### Your Favorite Photography Location

Where do you love to take your camera in the Colorado Front Range—or even farther afield? Share one of your go-to spots with other LPS enthusiasts! Write an article for Infocus or just send some basic info to be included in a future issue, and perhaps include one or two photos from that location.

### Photography Tools

Tilt-shift lenses, fisheyes, ultra-fast shutter controls, portable lighting setups, camera straps—options for tools to add to your camera bag seem limitless. For those of us who have pondered what innovative equipment would help boost our photography experience, your first-hand experience would be helpful.

### The LPS Affiliate Program

The following companies have offered LPS various programs for the club and anyone who uses the special **Affiliates** link provided on the website to make purchases.

- ◆ Adorama
- ◆ Feisol
- ◆ MindShift Gear
- ◆ Red River Paper
- ◆ Think Tank Photo
- ◆ Topaz Labs

It's important to use the links on the LPS website **each time you order**. Otherwise, you and LPS will not receive the benefits of the program each company offers.