INFOCUS The monthly e-newsletter for the Loveland Photographic Society



October Meeting Agenda

Lighten the Load: Why I Made the Switch to Olympus Presentation by Lee Hoy

Our presenter for the October meeting will be Lee Hoy, a photographer, educator, and tour guide from Fort Davis, Texas. As an official Olympus Educator, honored as one of nineteen educators in the U.S. and Canada, Lee will be speaking on his switch from a full frame camera system to the Olympus OM-D system.

Lee's Bio:

As owner/operator of Big Bend Birding & Photo Tours, I focus my time on helping others enjoy the beauty of the Big Bend National Park Region and serving as a freelance photographer when time permits. I am an

award-winning photographer, and my images have been in Texas Parks & Wildlife Magazine, Texas Highways, Bird Watcher's Digest, and NANPA's Expressions.

I also serve as a photography workshop instructor for Wildside Nature Tours and Kevin Loughlin, with destinations such as the Galapagos Islands National Park, Ecuador, Amazon Riverboat Cruise, Costa Rica, Glacier National Park, Yellowstone National Park in winter, and more. You can see some of my images from these destinations in my portfolio page.



LPS Board of Directors

PRESIDENT -- DAN KOZLOWSKI VICE PRESIDENT -- RICH KREBS <u>TREASURER</u> -- SANDY LOUCKS <u>SECRETARY</u> -- SCOTT SPRAIN <u>PROGRAMS</u> -- RICH KREBS -- RUTH SPRAIN <u>MEMBERSHIP</u> -- SANDY LOUCKS COMPETITION

LPS Officers

— JEFF STEPHENSON

FIELD TRIPS - LYNNE LEWIS **GREETING HOST** -OPEN FORUM DIRECTOR — INGRID JACOBSON PUBLICITY - OPEN **SCHOLARSHIPS** - RUTH SPRAIN **NEWSLETTER** - ARDETH CARLSON **WEBMASTER** - BILL SHANAHAN **PSA REPRESENTATIVE** - LISA SCHNELZER

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Club Meetings

Unless otherwise specified,

meetings will be held online

with the GoToMeeting app

using the following link:

https://www.gotomeet.me/

LPhotographicSociety

Saturday, October 9

Photo Bull Session

The Muse Coffee & Tea

1629 W. 8th. Loveland

8:30-10:30 AM

Monday, October 11

Monthly Club Meeting

6:30-8:30 PM

Monday, October 18

Photo Review Session

6:00-8:00 PM

Tuesday, November 2

LPS Board Meeting

6:30 PM

Open to All

Please mute your microphone

except when you are speaking,

during the online meetings

to avoid extraneous noises.

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*In***Focus**

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/

Members Only Facebook Group 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.

Presenter Bio Continued from Page 1

My passion for teaching comes from a long line of educators in my past and having taught beginning birding classes, photography classes, and Lightroom classes. I have served as an instructor for Travis Audubon Society (Austin, TX), Williamson Audubon Group (Williamson County, TX), many Master Naturalist classes, and for the Texas Ornithological Society for which I am currently serving as a board member for the Trans Pecos Region.

I have three degrees, with a B.A. in Geography, M.S. in Regional & City Planning, both from the University of Oklahoma, and an M.Div. with Biblical Languages from Southwestern Seminary in Fort Worth.

For more information about Lee and his photo tours, check out Lee's website: https://leehoyphotography.com/

Programs Committee Seeks Volunteer to Join Team

This year arrangements for the club's monthly presentations have been made by a committee of three, Shelly Kelly, Rich Krebs, and Ruth Sprain. This has been an effective way to reduce the amount of time any one person is required to spend during the year and also provides a way to collaborate on finding speakers and topics that would be of interest to LPS members. Shelly now finds that she needs to discontinue her service on the committee. The speaker schedule has been filled for the remainder of the year, but a third person is needed to join this team before the January 2022 meeting to work on the ongoing lineup of speakers for the new year. For more info, contact, Rich or Ruth or any of the LPS board members.

Photo Opportunity

Fort Collins Nursery, located at 2121 East Mulberry Street, Ft. Collins, will hold its 13th Annual Giant Pumpkin Weigh-Off on Saturday, October 9th. This is an officially sanctioned contest site for the Great Pumpkin Commonwealth, so expect to see amazing entries! Growers will compete for \$5,400 in cash prizes and awards in multiple prize categories.

Although tickets are free, due to the continued risks presented by COVID-19, attendance by the general public is being capped in order to provide a safe and comfortable experience and avoid overcrowding. Activities normally included in the Fall Jamboree, including the beer tent, tractor hayrides, pumpkin bowling, and face painting, have been cancelled this year. There are two time slots available: 10:00 a.m.-12:25 p.m. and 12:35 p.m.-3:00 p.m. For more information and to reserve a time slot, go to https://www.eventbrite.com/ e/fort-collins-nurserys-giant-pumpkin-weigh-off-tickets-170499984042.

Accessing the LPS website

Until Visual Pursuits, our website provider, has completed transitioning to new servers, you may need to enter <u>www.lps.cc</u> to access the website. Without including the www, you will likely get an error message.

JOIN THE CLUB

If you are reading this newsletter as a non-member and would like to join the Loveland Photographic Society, go to the main page on the LPS.CC website and click on **Membership > Join or Renew.** Annual dues are \$45.

Competition Corner

October Competition

Open Projected Nature Projected Monthly Topic: Humor

Submission Deadline Before Midnight, Monday, September 6

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.

Nature Category

Allowed digital adjustments:

- Adjust exposure
- Adjust highlight and shadow detail
- Adjust contrast
- Correct white balance/color
- Convert to black & white (grayscale only)
- Adjust saturation
- Remove dust spots, noise, flares
- Crop, straighten
- Sharpen (including focus stacking)

All adjustments must appear natural.

Not allowed:

- Cloning anything in or out
- Intentional (in post process) blurring
- Vignetting

In addition, watch out for evidence of humans, such as roads, bridges, telephone poles/lines, fences, or buildings, which is not allowed. The exception is when a fence, pole, or building is part of common animal behavior, such as a barn owl in a barn or an osprey at a manmade nesting pole. However, this exception can be open to interpretation by individual judges! For examples of accepted nature photos: <u>https://psa-photo.org/index.php?naturedivision</u>

If you have a great nature photo that doesn't follow these guides, enter it in the Open Projected category, which is always one of the competition categories every month!

LPS Judges Needed

For various reasons, the pool of available judges to fill the three-judge panel for LPS monthly competitions is diminishing.

While it might be intimidating to consider judging the work of other photographers, training can be provided for volunteers at the Masters or Masters 2 level, and each judge's scores are averaged with the scores of the other two judges so that the results are not the opinion of a single person.

Members who have achieved the upper two levels of competition are encouraged to share their knowledge of excellent images with the club by volunteering to join the group of available judges. The more judges who can be scheduled during the year by competition chair Jeff Stephenson, the fewer the months each judge needs to serve. For more information or an interest in future training sessions, contact Jeff or any board member.

Members Moving Up in Competition Level

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Congratulations to member Michael Rothschild, who is moving to Masters 2.

Upcoming 2021 Monthly Topics November: Still Life December: Best Of

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More LPS Offices Open

At its last meeting, the LPS board became aware of several more openings that will need to be filled for January 2022, in addition to a webmaster and a board secretary. Volunteers are also needed for treasurer and another member of the Programs Committee. Other open roles that will become important at a time when LPS is able to meet in person are greeter, publicist, and projectionist. Also, in the past, former member Mike Wilcox had graciously made his time available as a mentor, and this is an opportunity now for other experienced LPS photographers to share their knowledge of creating excellent images in a smaller setting than the club meetings.

A main feature of Loveland Photographic Society is the Ips.cc website, which contains information we as members really need to be able to access. Without our website, we would not be able to submit photos for the monthly competitions, allow the judges to view and score them, and give members the opportunity to view the photos and results after the judging. We would not have access to past newsletters and presenter videos. It would be difficult to maintain an email list to get information out to members. On the website you can also keep tabs on your LPS account.

To continue functioning as a source of photography information, fellowship with likeminded folks, and photo opportunities, our club relies on volunteers. For more information or to express an interest about any of the upcoming openings, contact any member of the board or the current officeholder.

Webmaster Duties

BY BILL SHANAHAN

The web administrator position takes 1-2 hours per month on average. I've maintained a notebook in PDF form that serves as a cheat sheet, with instructions on how to find your way around the website and how to handle routine items. There are still areas I am not familiar with, so you would have to rely on Visual Pursuits videos included under "Help."

These are the main webmaster duties:

- Upload newsletter; update newsletter page
- Update competition results
- Update web pages as needed
- Maintain email forwarding list
- Work with treasurer to pay annual fees for DNS registration
- · Help users with website issues
- Update roles for new board members
- Update IP address if visual pursuits changes servers; IP address and email forwarding are maintained at Hover.com. An alias was used as of this last change, so it should be good forever.

The membership chair takes care of membership renewals, etc. The competition chair takes care of competition stuff and furnishes a list of results monthly. The forums chair takes care of the discussion forums. Galleries are taken care of by whomever creates them; galleries have to be approved for public viewing when necessary.

The policy passed on to me is to disable or hide but don't delete menus, special pages, or members. Familiarity with HTML and Perl scripts would be helpful but not necessary. There should probably be two people who have admin rights to the website. Along with the cheat sheet, I will pass along the following items:

- Excel spreadsheet outlining the roles assigned to board members.
- Excel spreadsheet covering the newsletter index
- Perl scripts that convert the competition results and newsletter index to HTML code; this can be done in the Visual Pursuits editor, but the old hacker in me wants to edit in HTML.

LPS Board Opening: Secretary

BY SCOTT SPRAIN

By January 2022, LPS needs a new secretary. The position is essential and interesting but not too demanding.

The secretary's main task is to coordinate and record the actions at board meetings. The LPS board meets six times each year, on the first Tuesday evening of odd-numbered months. It is the secretary's job to gather and publish agenda items before each meeting, arrange a meeting location (usually a local restaurant), and take minutes during the meeting. All of that requires sending out two emails before each meeting and the word processing of the meeting's discussion.

More importantly, you can have direct access and input to all issues and decisions that the leadership of LPS needs to address.

After four years of service, it is time for me to move on and time to share the opportunity to serve with other members in a creative photo society.

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

Nature Division (ND) image guidelines can be seen at <u>https://psa-photo.org/index.php?</u> <u>divisions-nature-interclub-competition</u>. 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

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

TRAVEL DIVISION: Rich Krebs, LPS Rep rkrebs318@gmail.com

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

PSA 365-Day Challenge

Members of LPS who are also members of PSA should consider participating in the 365-day challenge. Daily assignments for every day of the year offer motivation to get out with your camera and provides a goal. However, it isn't a requirement that submitted photos be shot that day or even that year; it can also be a way to look through your photo archives and evaluate them in terms of meeting a specific theme. Most of the topics, such as earthy, adamant, wry, or imminent, can be approached from a variety of perspectives. Some are descriptive-greasy, itchy, flimsy-or some are nouns, like pot or loaf (yes, both can be read different ways!). You can view the current assignments and see examples at https://psa-photo.org/index.php? 365-day-gallery

National Photography Show

Extended Submission Deadline

The deadline to submit images to Lincoln Gallery's National Photography Show has been extended to September 29. There are two categories: Monochrome and Color.

Accepted entries will be on exhibition in the Lincoln Gallery and the online virtual gallery from November 3 to December 3, 2021, with the online virtual gallery extended to February 3, 2022. All submitted images must be available for sale, with a 35% commission to the Lincoln Gallery. Further information, with submission details, fees, and prizes, can be found at <u>https://artist.callforentry.org/</u> festivals unique info.php?ID=8822.

The judge is Scott Wilson:

Scots-born landscape, travel and wildlife photographer. Scott Wilson is a multi-vear finalist in the UK Landscape Photographer of the Year, scored Judge's Choice in this year's North American Nature Photography Association Awards and took Best in Show in the 2021 Y/OUR Denver Exhibition. co-hosted by the Denver Architecture Society and the Colorado Photographic Art Center. Scott regularly captures the drama of Colorado's wild mustangs which roam the northwest corner of the state and his work has featured in media ranging from the UK Sunday Times to Advanced Photographer, 5280, Denver Life, 303 Magazine. Colorado Life and the Denver Post. Scott, who recently opened Gallery 6 in Denver, says his judging philosophy is story. impact, composition, content and craft—in that order.

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J.R. Schnelzer to Assume Role as President of PSA

J.R. Schnelzer, FPSA, MPSA, AFIAP, well-known to LPS as a long-time member and pastpresident, will become the new president of the Photographic Society of America at the conclusion of the PSA photo festival in Rapid City, South Dakota, on October 9.



The current president, Elena McTighe, will not be able to attend the festival, and J.R. will cover her responsibilities during the festival events and will then officially become the PSA president at the honors banquet.

J.R. is an active semi-professional photographer working in the areas of fine art, nature, stock, and commercial photography. J.R has over 40 years of photographic experience. He began his passion for photography working in his father's darkroom, later attending Ohio State University working on an MFA in photography. During his studies, he was fortunate enough to spend time with Minor White, Ansel Adams, John Sexton, and Kim Weston, just to name a few.

J.R. is responsible for the formation of the Center for Fine Art Photography in Colorado. He has become heavily involved with the Photographic Society of America, currently serving as the Executive Vice President and will assume the office of President after the PSA Photo Festival in October. He was named first in the world in both color and monochrome small prints in 2019 and Who's Who for PSA. He has also judged photographic competitions locally, regionally, and internationally. He has been awarded a Blue Pin from the Fédération Internationale de l'Art Photographique (the International Federation of Photographic Art). J.R. has done work for Mannheim Steamroller and has been represented in many magazines and books. In 2014 he was invited to exhibit in the Master of Photography Exhibition in Hong Kong and the Photo La Gacilly Exhibition in France. He has also been invited to exhibit in China and Morocco.

"Photography is the process of creating future memories. My work is my language: I view the world in terms of their form and beautiful light. The hope of my art is to hold for you, in the subsiding of life's rush, the beauty of Visual Moments."

J.R. has had an eclectic career outside of photography, having worked as a National Park ranger (Grand Teton National Park and Rocky Mountain National Park), Park County manager, and manager for the city of Fort Collins. He has a bachelor of science in biology and a master of science in parks and recreation. At Ohio State University, he started a master of fine art, but felt that the degree would lead to a career in teaching rather than in the art of photography. He also obtained certificates as an emergency medical technician and in search and rescue.

He is married to Lisa, who is also an awardwinning photographer and the PSA representative for our club. Together J.R. and Lisa travel extensively, where they are both able to take advantage of numerous photo opportunities.

To view photographs by J.R., visit the Lincoln Gallery in Loveland and online at <u>https://www.jrschnelzerphotography.com/</u>

PSA Photo Festival 2021

The Photographic Society of America is looking forward to holding its 2021 Photo Festival, after having to cancel in 2020 due to COVID-19 restrictions. Rapid City, South Dakota, will be the site of this year's festival.

The opening ceremony is on Wednesday, October 6, but on-site registration opens on October 4, and photo tours and a chuckwagon event also begin on that date. There is an impressive array of speakers, covering a variety of photography topics. Photo tours include Badlands National Park sunrise and sunset tours, Spearfish Canyon waterfalls tour, Mount Rushmore and Iron Mountain Road tour, Reptile Gardens morning tour, and 1880 train ride and photo shoot.

There is still time to plan a fun trip to Rapid City to take advantage of the opportunity for the various photo tours and speakers. On-site registration for PSA members is \$230; registration for nonmembers is \$280. One-day passes are available for \$89 each. The optional photo tours have an added fee.

The Ramkota Best Western Hotel is offering a special rate of \$84 per night for festival attendees who book through the link on the PSA website. The festival ends with a banquet on October 9.

Use this link for complete information: <u>https://psa-programs.org/photo-festival-</u> 2021/index.html

PSA is currently offering a special membership rate of \$36 per year when enrolling in a 5-year membership.

PSA Youth Showcase 2021

The PSA Youth Showcase is open to students worldwide, ages 14 through 19 and attending high school or its equivalent, and is an opportunity for young photographers to share their work and receive international recognition. Entries to the PSA showcase are submitted by a sponsoring PSA chapter or club.

Ruth Sprain serves as the LPS rep for the PSA showcase, along with committee members Rich Krebs, Dan Kozlowski, Lorie Smith, and Lynne Lewis. In April, Ruth, Bob Carrier, and Ardeth Carlson judged photographs submitted to the LPS youth showcase, and the winning photographs, which were featured in the May issue of the LPS InFocus newsletter, were entered in the PSA Youth Showcase.

This year for the PSA competition, prints were evaluated by a three-judge panel in person in Milwaukee, with everyone wearing a mask. Projected images were downloaded and sent remotely to judges in their own homes located in Arkansas, Nevada, and Arizona. The judges of the projected images were Sharon Prislipsky, APSA, PPSA; John Andrew Hughes, APSA, PPSA; and Larry Cowles, HonPSA, GMPSA/P.

Bryce Kaminski, the winner of the Portrait—Digital category in the LPS showcase, has won first place, from 115 accepted images, in the People/Animals category of the Projected Image section of the PSA showcase, with his photograph titled *Self.* Bryce has received a prize of \$175 plus a one-year student membership in PSA.

LPS continues to place importance on encouraging the talents of young photographers. The effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the ability of students to attend in -person classes in 2020 were evident in the decline in the number of photographs entered in this year's youth showcase; it is hoped that 2021 will see that students who are interested in photography will have more learning resources available, with many schools being able to open due to increased vaccinations and mask wearing. PSA in its September newsletter extended "a deep debt of gratitude" to Ruth and other sponsor-club representatives for continuing the Youth Showcase during challenging times.

"I am Bryce Kaminski, attending Boulder High. I love spending time with my friends and family. Art is a big part of my life, from consuming it to creating it. I really look up to people who push boundaries in their own unique ways like David Lynch and Ian Mackaye and hope to one day have the capacity to do the same."



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"Self"—Bryce Kaminsky

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LPS Picnic Gathering

The LPS picnic, held at the Loveland Sports Park on September 2, was a wonderful way for members to meet together to enjoy good food and fellowship. We were blessed by excellent weather and by background music by members of a local high school marching band, who were rehearsing for the upcoming season! Many thanks to President Dan Kozlowski for organizing this club event, especially while we were able to be more safe by meeting outdoors.







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