

# South Shore Camera Club of NY



We focus on the fine points of photography

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## The Shutterbug Monthly

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### *From the President... Gary Meyer*



#### **FEBRUARY 2025**

The monthly newsletter has become an overwhelming success. Members continue to contribute a fantastic variety of content. Every month we have some regular columns and a mix of other useful and interesting information. The Niner, which features those images, scoring a 9 in the last competition is always a stunning display of the talent and artistry of our members. The January issue had George Cutler as the featured photographer, another regular column. Steve included another "How I Did That" and Richard shared some useful photo guides that were posted on the website. Jordan contributed an article about a 3-day trip to the Amish Country that they, Carole, Andrea, went on and indicated they will share their images shortly. Ellen included a column about the Elizabeth Morton

Wildlife Preserve including some great photos. She gave it rave reviews and encouraged us to make the trip. Paul Oresky included an article on cell phone photography and how it's evolved in every way, from the equipment to the results and its' place in even a serious photographer's repertoire.

Perhaps the highlight of the month was a magnificent presentation by Ivan Rothman, a marvelous wildlife photographer. A promotional outline along with some sample photos was included in the January issue. This was no ordinary slide show, but one of breathtaking photographs set to an uplifting musical score and exhibiting the rich natural beauty of the animals inhabiting this rare environment. Ivan was very engaging with a wealth of knowledge and spoke to the group in a wonderfully intimate setting.

Stu and Steve continue to do an incredible job and welcome your continued contributions.

### **JUST A LITTLE NOTE TO OUR MEMBERS**

Our newsletter will only be as good as we make it... we need all to contribute to it.

Send all suggestions, stories and helpful hints to either

Stuart Konecky ([stuart.konecky@gmail.com](mailto:stuart.konecky@gmail.com))

or Steve Friedman ([steve@PhotosBySMF.com](mailto:steve@PhotosBySMF.com))

# Featured Photographer: Patricia Walsh

Interview by Stuart Konecky



## What sparked your passion for photography?

My father had a small darkroom in our basement and was an avid photographer of family and family events. I was always amazed as I watched the image magically appear in the developing tray. He gave me my first camera - a Kodak Brownie Hawkeye, which I used to take family photos. After college I again became interested in photography - primarily taking B&W pictures at horse shows with an Argus C3 "the Brick" 35mm camera with a 50mm lens which I had inherited from my father. I developed them in my "bathroom darkroom". I soon realized I needed a longer lens and purchased my first interchangeable lens camera, a used Kowa SER with a 50mm and "huge" 135mm lens. By this time, I had also switched to slide film, as using the only bathroom as my darkroom was frowned on by the other members of my family. Shooting slides helped to improve my photography. At \$10-\$20 for a 36 exposure roll of slide film with processing you learned to take your time and make every shot count. When Kowa stopped manufacturing 35mm cameras I moved to Canon - Why? They were cheaper than Nikon! Then came Zoom lenses - and I was hooked.

I had always loved nature and enjoyed camping and hiking. Photography was a way to revisit these experiences and share them with others. I supplemented my camping adventures with photo workshops and many trips to local zoos. In 2009 I was finally able to take my first "trip of a lifetime" to Africa - a trip I repeated fourteen times. My passion for nature photography was confirmed. Photography had become a way to combine my love of nature with my intrinsic need for artistic expression and in the process gain many new friends.

## 2. How and when did you join the SSCC?

Back in 1980, while running a therapeutic horseback riding program, I became friends with one of our volunteers, Liz Siaba, who was a member of the SSCC. I attended a few meetings with her and was hooked. Back then photography clubs provided one of the few opportunities to learn the art of photography or even see good photographs. The SSCC had many excellent photographers who generously shared their knowledge of photography as well as the best places and ways to get "the" shot. The SSCC and PFLI, through their various programs, provided me with my first formal photography instruction as well as the opportunity to go to new places to photograph with others, many of whom became good friends.

## 3. Do you have a favorite type of photography or signature style?

Although I enjoy all genres of photography, I am partial to nature and wildlife, including macro and landscapes as well as fur and feathers! I especially enjoy taking photographs which capture the emotions or behaviors of animals.

## 4. Which cameras and lens do you like?

That depends on what I am photographing - whichever allows me to capture the image I am after. Right now my most used camera is the Canon R5 with the Canon 100-500 lens. It's superb auto focus and fast electronic shutter allow me to capture the high-speed action of wildlife and birds in flight with a much higher rate of success than ever before. I also use my 15-35 for landscapes (especially with the Milky Way) and environmental macro photography and my 100mm macro for flower and animal close-ups.

## 5. How do you approach post-processing your images?

My first experience with digital post processing came in 1995 when I purchased a slide scanner which came with Photoshop 3.0. I was primarily interested in using the scanner to convert slides for digital printing - to replace my cibachrome "darkroom". In 2003 I added my first digital camera - a 3.1-megapixel Canon D30. I shoot in Raw and for many years I primarily used Adobe Camera Raw or Canon's DPP to convert my raw images, Nik Silver Efex for B&W and Photoshop to optimize my images. As SSCC President and program chair I felt I should have knowledge of all the available post processing programs, so over the years I added additional programs and plug-ins including some from On1.. Eight years ago, On 1 added On 1 Photo Raw - which has developed into an All-In-One photo editing/cataloging program designed specifically for photographers. Its default settings for each module give me an excellent starting point and from there you have complete control to customize each setting and the flexibility to create whatever you can imagine. While I still use PS and some other plug-ins for specific tasks, On1 Photo Raw has become my primary program and has made my photo post processing faster and more fun. I would rather be "out there" taking photos than sitting at a computer. Although I sometimes enjoy experimenting with the many "creative" tools these programs provide, my approach has always been to get the best image possible "in-camera" and use post processing to optimize what the camera has captured.

## 6. What advice would you give to new photographers?

The evolution of digital photography and the internet has provided opportunities for photographers that were never available before. Many excellent photographers, including the "pros" have web sites and YouTube channels where they share their expertise, answer questions and offer webinars. There are also thousands of "How To" videos. Use them - most are free!

Take advantage of your digital camera. You can now see the image you took instantly, along with the settings you used to capture it - a great way to learn what different settings do. No need to take notes on what settings you used and then try to match those notes to the picture you get back from the film processor a week later!

Digital "film" is cheap! One shot or a hundred shots - the price is the same. Experiment - try something new or different. It only costs time. Before you move to a new subject make sure you have explored all the possibilities of the one you are shooting. Wait for the action to happen. One way to get a judge's attention is to show them something they haven't seen before.

Join a camera club. Sign up for a photography workshop trip to a place you always wanted to visit. They're great ways to learn and to meet "new" friends who share your interest.

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**THE TRADING POST** *Buy, sell or trade your photo equipment*  
Email: [steve@PhotosBySMF.com](mailto:steve@PhotosBySMF.com)

**i left this blank as a reminder that we need you to offer items.  
If I don't get any items for next month I will discontinue this column**

**If you have an item(s) that you would like to sell, trade or are  
looking for. Email [steve@photosbysmf.com](mailto:steve@photosbysmf.com)**

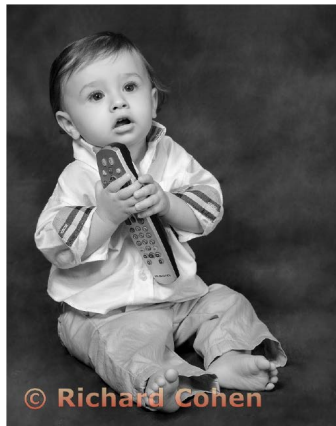
**Disclaimer:** The South Shore Camera Club is not responsible for any transactions made through The Shutterbug Monthly newsletter. All buyers, sellers, and traders are encouraged to exercise due diligence and conduct transactions at their own risk. The club does not endorse or guarantee any products or services listed in The Trading Post column.

# THE NINER

A COLLECTION OF PHOTOS THAT RECEIVED A 9 IN LAST MONTH'S COMPETITION



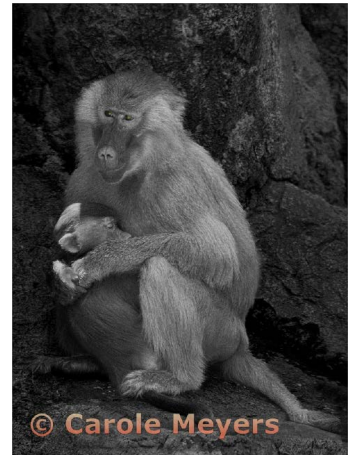
© Richard Cohen



© Richard Cohen



© Meghan Clifford



© Carole Meyers



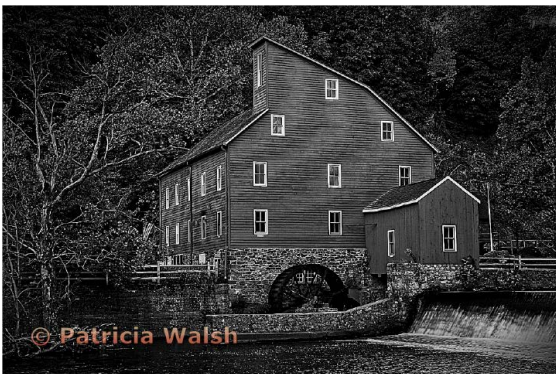
© Steven Friedman



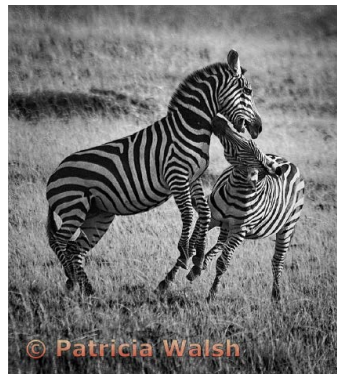
© Patricia Walsh



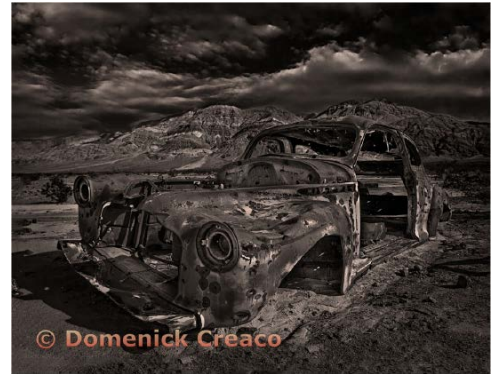
© Meghan Clifford



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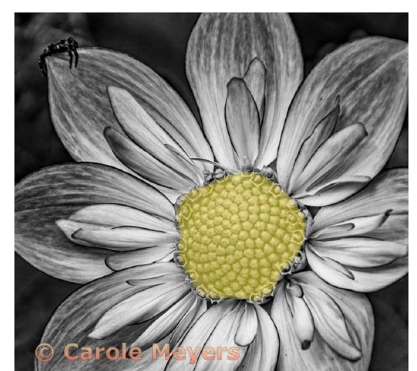
© Domenick Creaco



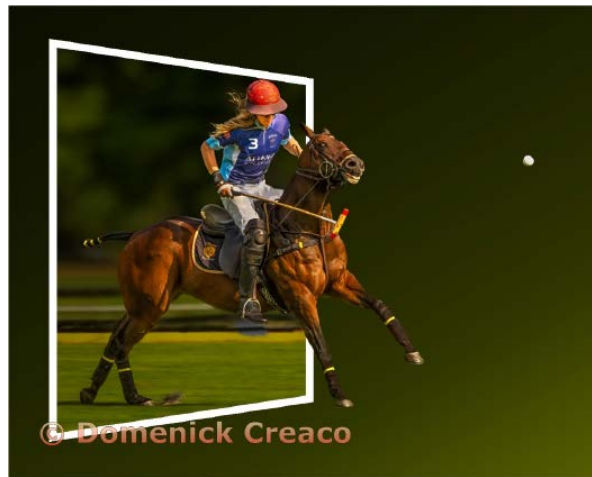
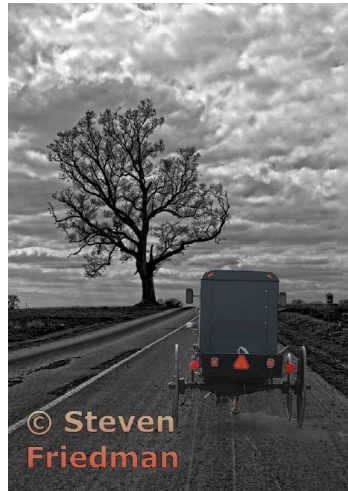
© Steven Friedman



© Carole Meyers



© Carole Meyers



Check the club website to see all of the other photos entered this month

# How I did that...

Steven Friedman



## 59<sup>TH</sup> STREET BRIDGE

- 1- The original photo
- 2- Knockout the sky with by using the magic wand
- 3- Create a sky: Go to filter, render, clouds and use the Gaussian blur to soften the look
- 4- Sharpen the photo (settings 150%, radius of 2, and threshold of 0)
- 5- Combine the sky with the sharpened layer



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## 55 BUICK SPECIAL

This is a perfect example of pre-visualizing what I planned to do with the photo before taking it.

- 1- I cropped the photo
- 2- I selected the taillights with the magnetic lasso and using the color balance tool under image/adjustments I brightened the red in the taillights.
- 3- Next I duplicated the photo (keeping the taillights selected) which created a new layer and converted it to gray scale. After it was converted I inversed my selection and deleted the taillights.
- 4- I flattened the image and removed the "posts" behind the Buick.



# Guest speaker of the month (on February 12TH)

## Jay Cohen



For years I have enjoyed photography on a casual basis – taking pictures of interesting landscapes, architecture, sunsets, etc., whether at home or in the course of travel. Over the past couple of years I have become much more involved in nature photography, with flowers and insects being the main subjects. I try to find the photos that are “hiding” all around us, whether in the yard at home, in a nature sanctuary, or simply within the houseplants on the windowsill. It’s been a fun way to combine my two favorite hobbies, gardening and photography.

My photographs may be found both in private collections and in the collections of the following:

Vernon Cancer Center at Newton-Wellesley Hospital - Newton, MA  
Miraca Life Sciences - Newton, Massachusetts

Kuchnir Dermatology and Dermatologic Surgery - Marlboro, MA

If you’d like to contact me, my email is [jay@jaycohenphotography.com](mailto:jay@jaycohenphotography.com)

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## Picture Poetry by George Cutler

### DAD

Took that last snapshot,  
tiredness in his face,  
with no smile.  
Recalling his youth,  
and now a shell,  
not quite empty.

When filled  
he smoked his pipe,  
smirked at jokes.  
He looked at me,  
knew my mind,  
he’d been there before,  
knew the outcome.

Much brighter than he  
seemed.  
His actions,  
and the way he told it,  
angered me at times.  
Now—forgiven.

I listen,  
I hear his laugh and voice.  
I look,  
I see his face and  
expressions.  
With my eyes and ears closed  
he’s there.  
I am not only my father’s son,  
I am my father.



Below are the links to get his book  
One of Them, from Amazon and  
Barnes & Noble

<https://a.co/d/9bChwJz>

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/one-of-them-george-cutler/1142249426?ean=9781977256638>

**Have an idea for a program... let Steve know**  
**Phone: 516.339.7912 • Email: [steve@PhotosBySMF.com](mailto:steve@PhotosBySMF.com)**

## Faces of Disney World by Stuart Konecky

Last November, my family and I had the pleasure of visiting Walt Disney World. Naturally, I took over 1,200 photos to capture the magic and joy of our experience. I'd like to share a few of these photos with you, showcasing some interesting faces we encountered along the way. For those curious about the photography gear, I used my Nikon Z50 camera with its 18-140mm lens.



### JUST A LITTLE REMINDER TO OUR MEMBERS

Our newsletter will only be as good as we make it... we need all to contribute to it. Send all suggestions, stories and helpful hints to either Stuart Konecky ([stuart.konecky@gmail.com](mailto:stuart.konecky@gmail.com)) or Steve Friedman ([steve@PhotosBySMF.com](mailto:steve@PhotosBySMF.com))



# Cell Phone Photography 2

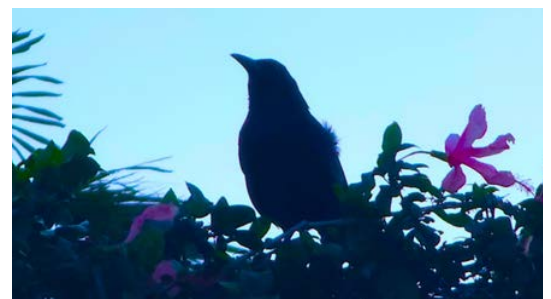
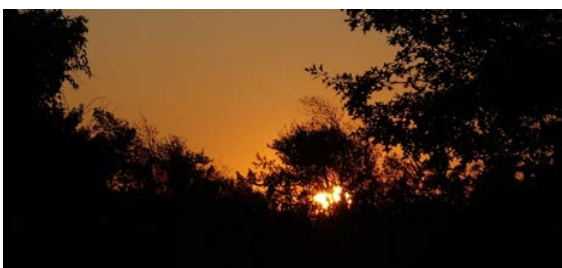
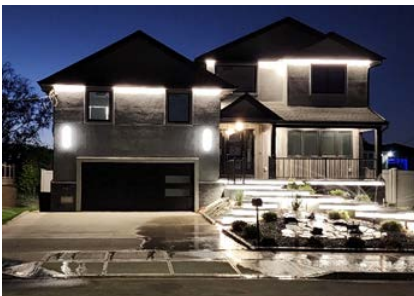
By Paul Oresky

I continued utilizing my Samsung Galaxy S22 Ultra Pro through the autumn season. I had been considering upgrading my digital cameras to add a Sony a1 at about the same time this series on cell phone photography came to mind. I've had a couple of Sony mirrorless cameras for a few years but haven't used them. My Sony a99 and a99II have been satisfying me photographically and I stubbornly did not want to put them out to pasture.

The problem with the Sony a1 was its cost. So, I promised myself that if the price came down to a reasonable amount, I'd make the last camera purchase of my life. It didn't throughout the fall. I continued my morning walks using my cell phone exclusively.

On a trip to Florida to visit our neighbors who had recently taken up permanent residence in Del Rey, I took my a99s and my cell phone. I continued my morning walks in their neighborhood. My cell phone accompanied me and was utilized exclusively. On a couple of visits to two of the nearby wildlife sanctuaries, I took and relied upon my cameras to capture images. I did not have confidence that the cell phone would be able to satisfy me in all the situations I could envision possibly presenting themselves. And I think that I was correct in making that decision, although some of the opportunities would have been nicely captured with my cell phone. For the important ones I needed my cameras.

Some of the cell phone images from Oceanside and Florida are below. I trust that you will be able to ID which came from where. But maybe not.



# GET IT FOR FREE!!!

Below are FREE photo retouching programs and a link to learning the program  
The first link is to learn the program – second is to download the program -  
Copy and paste the link in your browser

**PHOTOPAD** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9q5bwral8Xo&t=64s>  
[https://www.nchsoftware.com/photoeditor/download-now.html?srsId=AfmBOopR7FG1XAP6DpYRgxR22kaINw11OQGBhWjl\\_orPpxyfaO4bfBAg](https://www.nchsoftware.com/photoeditor/download-now.html?srsId=AfmBOopR7FG1XAP6DpYRgxR22kaINw11OQGBhWjl_orPpxyfaO4bfBAg)

**INPIXIO** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jRbuDjLDLx8&t=42s>  
[https://www.inpixio.com/en/mb/inpixio-photo-studio/?mkey1=IPX\\_NB\\_PPC\\_GO\\_EN\\_US\\_SE\\_GEN\\_PS&cmp=IPX\\_NB\\_PPC\\_GO\\_EN\\_US\\_SE\\_GEN\\_PS&uid=1020480&src=adwords&keyb=photo%20editing%20software&key1=159935342819&gad](https://www.inpixio.com/en/mb/inpixio-photo-studio/?mkey1=IPX_NB_PPC_GO_EN_US_SE_GEN_PS&cmp=IPX_NB_PPC_GO_EN_US_SE_GEN_PS&uid=1020480&src=adwords&keyb=photo%20editing%20software&key1=159935342819&gad)

**PHOTO ENHANCER** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0iqXznOkh3w&t=4s>  
<https://www.avclabs.com/photo-enhancer-ai.html>

**GIMP** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w0quo4S8Oqw&t=56s>  
<https://www.gimp.org/>

**GETPAINT** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fsL935G0VMM&t=20s>  
<https://www.getpaint.net/>

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Some recommendations from Ivan Rothman about photography leaders that he has traveled with:

**For Africa:**

Pangolin Photo Safaris [www.pangolinphoto.com](http://www.pangolinphoto.com) They have a great website and a great group  
Marsel and Daniella [www.Squiver.com](http://www.Squiver.com) Dutch couple in South Africa. Great website & great to travel

**For birds:**

Alan Murphy [alanmurphyphotography.com](http://alanmurphyphotography.com) The world's best bird photographer. Also great to travel with

**For Costa Rica:** Greg Basco [fotoverdetours.com](http://fotoverdetours.com)

**Steve Perry** [backcountrygallery.com](http://backcountrygallery.com) The best wildlife photo website out there with a great forum  
to participate in and great videos about wildlife photography and using Nikon or Sony cameras

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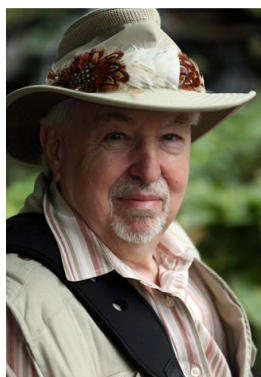
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Here is an examples of simply cropping, sharp-ening and replacing the “junk” with a sky can improve your photos. Shown is the before and after



# From the Publisher...

Steven Friedman



Another month has gone by and we have seen some very wonderful photographs by the membership at all levels. One of the things I really like about our group is the social aspect of it. In conjunction with the social aspect, as the program director I would like to suggest starting a Sunday Shooters group. What are

Sunday Shooters? You ask. It is a group of us that meet for breakfast Sunday mornings and the select a place(s) to go shooting together.

Something else that I think would be fun to do is have a Swap Shop Night where we bring in photo-related items (equipment, filters, books, etc.) that we no longer use and are willing to trade or sell at a reasonable price with 10% of the sale price going to the club's treasury.

If anyone has other suggestions, I am open to hearing them. Just a reminder that we welcome all material contributions for our newsletter... Have a special technique for editing your photos? Write an article to share and tell us how you do it.

As a man of few words, when I write, I will end my column... Happy shooting and getting all nines!!!



## THE STAFF

### Officers

President: .....Gary Meyer  
Vice President: ..... Domenick Creaco  
Secretary: ..... Stuart Konecky  
Treasurer: .....George Cutler

### Publication

Editor: ..... Stuart Konecky  
Publisher: ..... Steven Friedman



## Celebrating Our Fourth Issue of The Shutterbug Monthly



### Encouraging Contributions and Looking Ahead

We are pleased to present the fourth issue of The Shutterbug Monthly. This milestone celebrates the dedication of every member who has contributed to our publication.

As we continue, we encourage you to contribute even more. Whether it's a photo essay, an article on techniques and experiences, or poetry, your contributions are vital to our publication.

Let's continue to support each other's artistic expression. Your unique perspectives are what make The Shutterbug Monthly special, and we look forward to showcasing more of your work in future issues.

Thank you for being part of our community. Here's to many more issues filled with creativity and inspiration.

Best regards,

Stuart Konecky

Editor, The Shutterbug Monthly