

# Focal EXPRESSIONS



Newsletter of the Nevada Camera Club • A Member Club of the Photographic Society of America • March 2026  
 See the Nevada Camera Club Web Site at <http://nevadacc.org/>

*Young Kazakh and His Eagle* by Stephanie Phillips. Awarded a Purple Ribbon with 27 point in Intermediate Portraiture



I travel quite a bit, but the trip to Mongolia was one of my favorites and the highlight was spending time with Kazakh Eagles Hunters. We visited several families in their yurts and attended the Altai Eagle Festival. I have many images from the trip, but this was the one that “spoke to me”. I loved the young man’s look of youthful determination, and the connection between him and his eagle. Due to the eagle’s constant movement, I shot in burst mode, which allowed me to capture this exact moment. I chose to focus on the young man at f11, which helped to get both him and the eagle in focus. We were inside a yurt which had no electricity so the only light was from an open door, which was perfect. I also think some luck was involved. This may be my favorite image in my collection. ●

## MARCH

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

## APRIL

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

## NCC Calendar

Events listed in **BOLD FACE SMALL CAPS** are open to the public. Events listed in plain face are open only to NCC members. Unless noted, all General Meetings begin at 7:00 PM in the St. Andrew Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall, 8901 Del Webb Blvd., Las Vegas. All Executive Board Meetings begin at 7:00 PM by Zoom.

### MARCH

- 3 Executive Board Meeting, 7 PM, on Zoom.
- 10 Judges Corner on Zoom, 6:30 PM
- 13 **TAKE-IN FOR THE 2026 ANNUAL OPEN PRINT COMPETITION 6:00-6:30 PM.**
- 13 **PROGRAM MEETING FEATURING JERRY GHONIS IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL OF ST. ANDREW LUTHERAN CHURCH, 6:30 PM**
- 14 Beginners Group. 2-4 PM. Fellowship Hall at St. Andrew Lutheran Church.
- 23 Deadline to enter and pay for Monthly Electronic Image Competition, 11:59 PM.
- 27 **MONTHLY ELECTRONIC IMAGE COMPETITION MEETING ON ZOOM, 7 PM.** Club Challenge: *Time*
- 28 Amboy Crater Field Trip
- 31 Deadline for the April issue of *Focal Expressions*.

### APRIL

- 7 Executive Board Meeting, 7 PM, on Zoom.
- 10 **PROGRAM MEETING, FELLOWSHIP HALL OF ST. ANDREW LUTHERAN CHURCH, 7 PM.**
- 11 Beginners Group. 2-4 PM. Fellowship Hall at St. Andrew Lutheran Church
- 20 Deadline to submit entry data for the February Monthly Print Competition, 11:59 PM.
- 24 **MONTHLY PRINT COMPETITION, FELLOWSHIP HALL OF ST. ANDREW LUTHERAN CHURCH, 7 PM.** Club Challenge theme: *Life*
- 28 Deadline for May issue of *Focal Expressions*.●

## President's Message

by Edward Lee Stiglitz, DNCC



It's a great time to be out with your camera. The wildflowers are everywhere. Death Valley was great last week for the field trip but will be good for several more weeks.

WPPI is coming the first week in March. If you want a free expo pass you can get a code from B&C Camera. This is a great opportunity to see all the latest gear

as well as get a few shooting opportunities.

We also have a great speaker, **Jerry Ghionis**, for our March 13th program meeting. Please note that the meeting will start at 6:30 that evening. And don't forget our Amboy Crater field trip on March 28th!

We also have Red Flag returning out at the Nellis Air Force Base for even more great shooting opportunities. Lots to do this time of year and the weather outside is wonderful. ☉

## March's Club Challenge

by Edward Lee Stiglitz, DNCC

### TIME

Wow that's a big subject. It could be a clock or anything that makes you feel time or feel like time is passing. I think something that shows time passing would be cool.

Let's see what *Webster* says...

"The measured or measurable period during which an action, process, or condition exists."

*Webster* said a lot more but I think this is what pertains to us.

Anyway, I can't wait to see what you all come up with. ☉

## Beginner's Group

by Serena Scalzi

Beginners Group this month will focus on Macro. We will look at macro lens, lights, Extension tubes, close up filters and more. We will have a few little things to photograph making this a hands-on event. Remember Beginners Group is for everyone and all questions are welcome.

Beginners Group will be March 14<sup>th</sup> in the Fellowship Hall at St. Andrew Lutheran Church from 2-4 PM. Bring your camera! ☉

## Special Competitions

by Linda Hicks, DNCC

We have two major special competitions with entry due dates coming up in the next month and a half. The 2026 Annual Open Print Competition will have image take in on March 13 from 6-6:30 PM. Then our Special PSA competition electronic entries are due April 17. Pick your images now! Entry information is included in this newsletter, for the Open Print on page 13 and for the PSA contest on page 6. Mac users, please note - the online Open Print entry form is best completed in the most current version of Safari or another browser. ☉

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## Merits

by Linda Hicks, DNCC

Congratulations to the Nevada Camera Club members who achieved merit awards during the month of February.

200 points - **Jeff Hahn**

**Julia Mejorada**

Beginning in March, **John Johnson** will be competing in the Advanced class after having been awarded ten first place ribbons as an Intermediate. ☉



# B&C Camera

4511 West Sahara Avenue  
Las Vegas, NV 89102

Email: [sales@bandccamera.com](mailto:sales@bandccamera.com)  
Phone: (702) 871-1100

Website: [bandccamera.com](http://bandccamera.com)



## Monthly Competition

by Paul Bessette, HNCC

The February print competition attracted 83 entries submitted by 31 members 37 unique categories. The judges awarded 7 perfect scores of 27 and a total of 27 first place ribbons.



Those receiving perfect scores were:

**Allan Duff** – *Peaceful Pier*

**Doreen Lawrence** – *After the Hunt*

**Calvin Moore** – *Water Towers of Springs Preserves*

**Steve O'Melia** – *Steam!!!*

**Janice Phillips** – *Wisconsin Capital Building*

**Stephanie Phillips** – *Young Kazakh and His Eagle – Mongolia*

**Scott Ryberg** – *Curious*

The Club Challenge of *Planes, Trains and Automobiles* had 22 entries.

Thank you to the following volunteers that made the competition possible.

Set-up assistance: **Paul Bessette, Jeff Hahn**

Take in Assistance: **Terri Hutchings, Michael Stratton**

Entry Fees: **Linda Hicks, Mary Sheets**

Announcer: **Linda Hicks**

Print Handlers: **Jeff Hahn, Craig Hicks**

Scorekeeper: **Mary Sheets**

Merit Recorder: **Juliana Stratton**

Ribbon Writer: **Sandy Cornwell**

Judges: **Jerome Hamilton, Doreen Lawrence, Janice Phillips, Ed Stiglitz, and Cindy Wilson**

Next month is an electronic image competition. Make sure you have your entries uploaded and paid for by 11:59 PM on Monday, March 23rd. The Club Challenge will be *Time*.☺

## Membership

by Julia Mejorada

Welcome to our newest and returning members!

#1654 **Kim Cochrane** is a returning member. She is suggesting field trips to Goblin Valley and Anza Borrego State Park, sounds like some great trips to add. She is interested in landscape, large format & pinhole. Thanks, Kim and welcome back.

# 2278 **Donald Florkey** rejoined. Welcome back!

#2363 **Tom Rogers** rejoined. Welcome, Tom.

# 2395 **Heather L. Bolyard** she joined as a Beginner and learned of us through **Chris Markel**. Welcome, Heather.

# 2398 **Scott Ryberg** joined as a beginner class and has already been actively participating. Welcome, Scott.

# 2399 **Eric Courtney** is interested in leading or assisting on beginners group, competitions, community and Field Trips. Recommended by **Steve O'Melia**.

# 2400 **David Salow** he joined us as an Intermediate photographer. He learned about us from B&C Camera. He's interested in Wildlife, Scenic and Sports. Welcome, David. ☺

## Your Dues Are Due!

by Mary Sheets, DNCC

Just a reminder that everyone's dues were due January 1st. If you joined us sometime during last year, your dues are also due January 1. Your fees were prorated when you joined. You can pay at our March program meeting. I will be happy to accept your dues and update your membership records. Our membership chairman can update your badge if needed at that time. Those not current with their dues on March 31, 2026 will be moved to inactive status and unable to enjoy the benefits of NCC membership.

When paying in person, please bring cash or a check. You can also pay by Zelle using the email address [nevadaccdotorg@gmail.com](mailto:nevadaccdotorg@gmail.com) or through the website using your credit card. Remember there is a small fee for paying on the website but no fee when paid through Zelle. ☺

## CLUB CHALLENGE THEMES

### March (electronic)

Time

April (print)

Life

May (electronic)

Opposites

June (print)

Shadows

July (electronic)

Mirrored

### August (print)

Music

September (electronic)

Exactly Seven

October (print)

Weather

November (electronic)

Death

## Community E-Notice

Subscribe to Community E-Notice to receive announcements regarding the Las Vegas photographic community via E-mail. To start your subscription, modify your newsletter subscriptions in your member account on the Nevada Camera Club web site.

<http://nevadacc.org/>

Focal Expressions is published monthly by the Nevada Camera Club for its members. Focal Expressions uses a two-column format. Cost of advertising is \$10 per column inch per issue. Minimum ad size is one-half column inch (\$5). Standard business card size (2"x 3.5") is \$20; a quarter page is \$50; a half page is \$100; and a full page is \$200. Semi-annual and annual rates receive a discount.

Submit ad copy with payment to:

Nevada Camera Club

P.O. Box 19451

Las Vegas, NV 89132.

For further information contact Mary V. Sheets by phone at 702-521-9569 or by e-mail at: [sheetsmva@gmail.com](mailto:sheetsmva@gmail.com).  
Submission deadline for April is March 31, 2026.

Linda Hicks, editor: [publisher@nevadacc.org](mailto:publisher@nevadacc.org)

## Programs

by Jerome Hamilton, DNCC

This month, for our March program, we are in for a treat with the amazing Las Vegas based **Jerry Ghionis**. Be on the look out for Jerry's program "An Evening with Jerry Ghionis: The Art, Craft, and Drama of Photography", and keep in mind we are starting a little bit earlier in March with a 6:30pm meeting to accommodate Mr Ghionis's busy schedule to fit in our group.



Las Vegas' own Jerry Ghionis will share his favorite lighting and posing techniques, along with simple ways to add more drama and impact to your images. He will demonstrate how to bring out the best in any location, light, or subject, creating more flattering, meaningful, and visually compelling photographs.



This educational, inspirational, and entertaining evening offers a rare opportunity to learn from one of the world's most awarded and versatile photographers. Jerry will draw on his experience across multiple genres while sharing practical insights into the art, craft, and business of photography, with a strong focus on helping photographers grow with confidence and intention.



While there is a structured program, Jerry is known for tailoring his presentations to the interests and needs of his audience, making every seminar a unique and engaging experience.

A quick bio for Jerry Ghionis

"Jerry Ghionis is widely regarded as one of the world's top portrait and wedding photographers and is proud to call Las Vegas home. Known for his fusion of vintage glamour and contemporary fashion, Jerry brings soul, drama, and elegance to every frame. With the creativity of a fashion designer and the precision of an architect, he creates visual stories that are both emotionally powerful and technically masterful.

He is the most awarded photographer in WPPI history and was the first to earn their Grand Master title. He has been named among the top five wedding photographers in the world by WPPI and among the top ten by American Photo Magazine. He also received the United Nations Leadership Award from the International Photographic Council and was named AIPP Australian Fashion Photographer of the Year.

A Nikon Ambassador, Jerry has fronted global campaigns for the D850, Z6, Z8, and Z9 cameras. He was also named by PDN magazine as one of the world's top photography educators. As an inventor, Jerry created the Ice Light and the Omega Reflector, tools now used by photographers worldwide.

Throughout it all, the Jerry Ghionis brand has become synonymous with excellence, innovation, and a deep love for people and for the craft of photography." ●

## Field Trips

by Edward Lee Stiglitz, DNCC



Death Valley Field Trip, February 21 & 22.



Our March field trip is on March 28th to Amboy Crater which is about 150 miles south of Las Vegas. My favorite way to get there is to drive south on I-15 to Cima Road, then left to Kelso Dunes Road. From there, I go south on the Kelso Dunes Road through the Mojave Preserve until I cross Interstate 40. Amboy Crater is just a bit farther. There should be lots of flowers around the crater and along the way there. Also, in the past at this time of year, I have found desert iguana and chuckwalla. I'm hoping they are out so we can see these large reptiles. We will meet in the parking lot at 10am.

If interested in this trip please text me at 702-271-5011 so I can put you on the update list. ●



## 20% OFF Fine Art Prints

Use Promo Code:  
**FINEART0326**

Offer valid until 03/31/2026

**Cashman** Pro Photo Lab 6295 S. Pioneer Way, Las Vegas, NV 89113  
702.693.6822 | CashmanProPhotoLab.com

## In Memoriam

We are sad to learn of the passing of former NCC member **Alan Chapman**, #1886, on February 11, 2026. Alan was an advanced photographer who enjoyed capturing Nature/Wildlife images. No services are planned but memorials may be sent to Dunkerton Historical and Tourism, P.O. Box 215, Dunkerton, IA 50626. ●

Follow Nevada Camera Club on Facebook & Instagram



## PSA Liaison

by Jerome Hamilton, DNCC



PSA is the Photographic Society of America Worldwide. Nevada Camera Club is an affiliate member of PSA. Being an affiliate member does give you a few benefits but being a PSA member as well brings you the most benefits possible. **Stacey Foster**, our former Canon Rep for the Nevada Territory, is now the PSA Marketing Manager. Stacey has informed me that she has brought the benefits of 32 photographic entities to the PSA umbrella and they all offer us several discounts. Additionally, Stacey will be at the PSA booth at the WPPI convention on March 2, 3, and 4 and you can meet her and ask any questions you like. I am the PSA Nevada Membership Director. If you do decide to join, let me know and we can discuss the membership options.

The PSA Photo Festival is coming to Las Vegas this year, September 13 – 19, 2026. This will be the first time that the Photo Festival is visiting Vegas. Nevada Camera Club has an incredible opportunity to be involved, to be educated, and to participate with a group of this size. PSA is expecting their registration to be in the 300's. I have already secured our spot as the Host Camera Club for the 87th Annual PSA Photo Festival in Las Vegas, Nevada. There is going to be a few opportunities for some direct involvement with PSA, and I will have a sign-up sheet at the February Program meeting for a few volunteers to help out and work on a couple of the tours and a couple of the workshop rooms at the event. PSA will also have some pre-conference tours that we all might like to look at.

Be sure to enter Nevada Camera Clubs PSA Competition and have your images displayed in the Opening Ceremonies during the PSA Photo Festival this September. ●



## Join PSA

For membership information, go to  
<http://www.psa-photo.org/>  
or contact PSA Liaison,  
Jerome Hamilton  
702-682-9514

## Results from the February 2026 Monthly Print Competition

### Abstract

#### Advanced - Color

Blue	24	Philip Cenicola	Inside Looking Out
Red	23	Ken Lawrence	Tangle

#### Master - Monochrome

Red	21	Clayton Fox	Light Play
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### Animals/Pets

#### Intermediate - Color

Blue	24	Julia Mejrada	Sealed in Salt
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#### Advanced - Color

Blue	25	Rolando Adriano	Mother of Dragon.....Flies
Red	24	Steve O'Melia	A Little to the Left Please
White	23	Dale Kavula	WHAT!! You Want Me to Wear This??

### Creative

#### Advanced - Color

Blue	24	Juliana Stratton	Thinking Pink
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### Documentary

#### Intermediate - Monochrome

Red	23	Serena Scalzi	Hoover Dam
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#### Advanced - Color

Purple	27	Janice Phillips	Wisconsin Capital Building
Red	26	Julie Chadburn	Ville di Corsano in the Fog

#### Advanced - Monochrome

Blue	24	Jim Ludwick	Stormy Race
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### Nature/Wildlife

#### Beginner - Color

Blue	24	Calvin Moore	Waterfall
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#### Beginner - Monochrome

Purple	27	Scott Ryberg	Curious
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#### Advanced - Color

Blue	26	Ken Lawrence	The Fighter
Red	25	Michael Stratton	The King
White	26	Michael Chapman	Galapagos Hawk
-----	23	Allan Duff	Gliding Gracefully
-----	23	Stan Kaules	First Light

#### Master - Color

Purple	27	Doreen Lawrence	After the Hunt
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### People

#### Intermediate - Color

Blue	25	John Johnson	Pike's Trio
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#### Advanced - Color

Red	23	Rolando Adriano	Flamenco!
White	21	Stan Kaules	Fashion Show at the Gallery

#### Master - Color

Red	22	Craig Hicks	Touchdown!
White	21	Stephen Cupp	Goal

### Pictorial

#### Intermediate - Color

Blue	24	John Johnson	Cathedral Rock
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#### Intermediate - Monochrome

Blue	24	Julia Mejrada	Rosette Shape
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Continued on page 6

Advanced - Color

Purple	27	Allan Duff	Peaceful Pier
Red	25	Julie Chadburn	Podere Belvedere
White	25	Terri Hutchings	Ready to Harvest
-----	25	Steve O'Melia	Hamakua Coast, HI
-----	24	Paul Bessette	Eagle Harbor Light Station
-----	24	Jon Hayslip	Douro River @ Sunset, Porto Portugal
-----	23	Sheri Ann Forbes	By the Pool
-----	22	Michael Chapman	Spirit Mountain
-----	22	Jon Hayslip	Fog Layer - Val d' Orcia
-----	21	Dale Kavula	Meditation Pond

Advanced - Monochrome

Blue	24	Jim Ludwick	Arch Rock Valley of Fire
Red	21	Jerome Hamilton	Bryce

Master - Color

Red	22	Linda Hicks	Fire in the Sky
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Master - Monochrome

Red	22	Craig Hicks	Lou Ruvo Center
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**Portraiture**Intermediate - Color

Purple	27	Stephanie Phillips	Young Kazakh and His Eagle - Mongolia
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Advanced - Color

Blue	25	Sheri Ann Forbes	Lauren
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Master - Color

Blue	24	Stephen Cupp	Lounging
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**Still Life**Advanced - Color

Blue	26	Michael Stratton	Fresh Fruit
Red	25	Paul Bessette	Seeing Blue
White	22	Philip Cenicola	Less is More
-----	22	Sandy Cornwell	Yellow Jewel

**Unclassified**Beginner - Monochrome

Purple	27	Calvin Moore	Water Towers of Springs Preserve
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Intermediate - Color

Blue	24	Jeff Hahn	Open the Pod Bay Doors, HAL Boulder City
White	21	Serena Scalzi	

Intermediate - Monochrome

Red	22	Jeff Hahn	Not a Good Place for a Nap
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Advanced - Color

Blue	24	Terri Hutchings	Sunset at Jockey Ridge
Red	22	Juliana Stratton	Large Spray
White	22	Sandy Cornwell	Dinky Diner, Goldfield Sign

Advanced - Monochrome

Blue	25	Jerome Hamilton	Amargosa Opera House
Red	23	Janice Phillips	Concentric

Master - Color

Red	23	Clayton Fox	Railway Post Office (RPO)
White	22	Linda Hicks	Beach Stroll

Master - Monochrome

Blue	24	Doreen Lawrence	Wind Carved
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**Club Challenge***Planes, Trains, and Automobiles*Beginner

Blue	24	Scott Ryberg	JetStar
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Intermediate

Blue	24	John Johnson	Caddy Grill
Red	22	Julia Mejorada	Galaxy
White	21	Serena Scalzi	ReBAR ReCAR

Advanced

Purple	27	Steve O'Melia	STEAM!!!
Red	26	Allan Duff	57 Chevy
White	26	Julie Chadburn	Tram #28
-----	25	Jon Hayslip	Classic Fiats
-----	25	Ken Lawrence	Las Vegas F1 Car
-----	25	Janice Phillips	A Winter Run
-----	23	Paul Bessette	Intrepid Desert Traveler
-----	23	Philip Cenicola	Cascade Trestle
-----	23	Michael Chapman	F-35s Returning Home
-----	22	Clayton Fox	Connecting Communities
-----	22	Jerome Hamilton	Is it a Car / Is it a Plane
-----	22	Michael Stratton	My Favorite Ride
-----	21	Rolando Adriano	Aviation Nation
-----	21	Sandy Cornwell	1947 Gift from France, Merci Train Cars
-----	21	Dale Kavula	1918 Albatros Still Flies
-----	21	Juliana Stratton	Wooden You Like a Ride? '

Master

Blue	25	Doreen Lawrence	Iron Horse
Red	24	Linda Hicks	An Oldie but Goodie
White	21	Craig Hicks	Old & New ☺

**NEVADA CAMERA CLUB MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of the Nevada Camera Club shall be to promote the art and science of photography by sharing what is known and continuing to learn with support and respect for one another.

## The Judges Corner

by Jerome Hamilton, DNCC

It's time to get back to The Judges Corner. My work life has been crazy with my doing a company move and still trying to get into a new location. I have been off the radar on Judges Corner. I have been asked quite a bit to get something on the calendar so I will be hosting another session of The Judges Corner on Tuesday, March 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm focusing on the photo critique. These sessions are generally done via Zoom and we can all participate. In lieu of the past February program that I presented, I put this list together with some input from A.I. Google but many of these ideas I had already talked about. Within the program I gave you many words to use for description.

A photo critique is a detailed, constructive review of a photograph, analyzing its technical, artistic, and storytelling merits to help the photographer improve. Unlike simple feedback ("nice shot"), a good critique explains *why* a photo works or doesn't, covering lighting, composition, focus, and, when needed, suggesting improvements.

### Key Aspects of a Photo Critique

- **Constructive Analysis:** Focuses on both what works and what could be improved, often using a "sandwich" method (praise, constructive criticism, encouragement).
- **Technical Evaluation:** Evaluates exposure, focus, depth of field, color accuracy, and sharpness.
- **Artistic Evaluation:** Examines composition (rules of thirds, leading lines, framing), balance, and mood.
- **Goal-Oriented:** Aims to help the photographer grow rather than simply tearing down their work, often focusing on intentionality in shooting.
- **Contextual:** Considers the photographer's skill level and equipment, offering advice relevant to their situation.
- How to Give a Helpful Critique
- **Be Specific:** Instead of "it's too dark" say "the shadows are blocked, losing detail".
- **Offer Solutions:** Suggest how to fix issues (e.g. » cropping this way might remove the distracting branch»).
- **Explain the "Why":** Explain why a composition choice feels strong or weak.
- **Separate Fact from Opinion:** Make it clear when you are talking about objective technical rules (e.g., focus) vs. subjective taste (e.g., color palette).

### Common Pitfalls to Avoid

- **Being Too Negative/Cruel:** A critique should be professional, not hurtful.
- **"Blind Praise":** Only saying "great shot" is not helpful, as it doesn't help the photographer understand their strengths.
- **Ignoring the Context:** Critiquing a smartphone photo as if it were taken with a \$5,000 camera.☹

## Wildflower Photography in Death Valley

by Harry Ghuman, HNCC



Most Death Valley wildflower photographs fail not because the flowers are unremarkable, but because the light is ruthless and the photographer treats the desert like a garden. Success here demands intention, restraint, and a field workflow tuned for harsh conditions and fragile subjects.

### Visual Intent Before Technique

Before dialing in settings, decide what the photograph is about. Is it resilience—one bloom against a salt-crusted void? Fragility—petals dissolving into softness? Or scale—small color fields stitched into a vast landscape? Sharpness is not the goal; clarity of intent is. In many cases, letting the background fall gently out of focus communicates isolation and delicacy far better than wall-to-wall sharpness. Use depth of field to suggest meaning, not just describe form.

### Aperture: Use the Sensor, Not the Myth

For single flowers or intimate clusters,  $f/5.6$ – $f/8$  offers separation without sacrificing petal detail. When layering flowers into midground textures,  $f/8$ – $f/11$  is a practical ceiling on modern full-frame sensors. Avoid  $f/16+$  unless the composition truly requires it—diffraction quietly erodes the very detail you're trying to preserve. If depth is critical, address it with technique, not by using smaller apertures.

### Decision point:

- Calm air + static subject → stop down moderately
- Breeze or fragile stems → open up and isolate

### Focus Stacking: Precision With Restraint

Focus stacking shines in Death Valley, especially for low-angle macro work where depth collapses quickly. Work from the nearest petal edge through the plane that supports your visual intent—often not the entire background. Tripod, manual focus, and short stacks are key. Early morning is best; once wind arrives, stacking becomes an exercise in frustration.

Continued on page 8

## Nevada Camera Club E-Notice

Subscribe to NCC E-Notice to receive timely and important announcements from NCC officers and chairpersons via E-mail. To start your subscription, update your newsletter preferences in your account on the Nevada Camera Club web site.

<http://nevadacc.org>

# February 2026 Monthly Print Competition 1st Place Images

27s

**Decision point:**

- Windless dawn → stack confidently
- Any visible movement → abandon the stack and embrace selective focus

**Creating Shade: Control the Desert**

Direct sun flattens color and obliterates highlight detail. A collapsible diffuser, reflector, or even your body can create usable shade in seconds. Shading softens contrast, preserves color transitions, and slows wilting. After shading, add controlled fill only if it supports form. Flat light is not the goal—*controlled light is*.

**Decision point:**

- High sun + pale petals → diffuse
- Backlit petals with texture → shoot as-is

**A Practical Field Sequence**

A productive Death Valley session often looks like this: Scout in hard light mid-day, noting promising clusters and backgrounds. Return at first light when the wind is minimal. Start wide to establish context, then work progressively lower and closer. Shade selectively. Decide early whether the subject earns stacking. Shoot deliberately, then move on—conditions change fast.

**Composition: Clean or Walk Away**

The desert is visually chaotic. Get low, simplify, and watch edges obsessively. Footprints, debris, and bright stones will destroy quiet compositions. Overcast conditions are rare gifts—when they appear, work fast and think broadly.

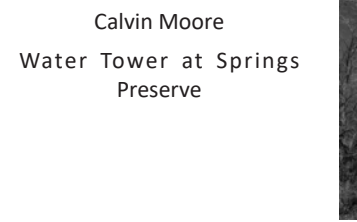
**Trip-Critical Tips**

- Check bloom reports and elevations—conditions vary by miles.
- Stay on durable surfaces; cryptobiotic soil and flowers are easily damaged.
- Carry water, layers, knee protection, and sun defense.
- Revisit locations as light changes; the desert transforms by the minute.

In Death Valley, wildflower photography rewards photographers who slow down, impose intention, and respect the environment. The strongest images don't shout—they endure. ☺



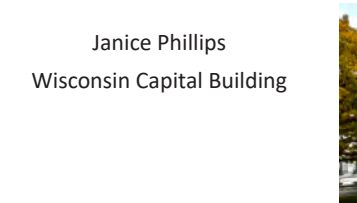
Allan Duff  
Peaceful Pier



Calvin Moore  
Water Tower at Springs Preserve



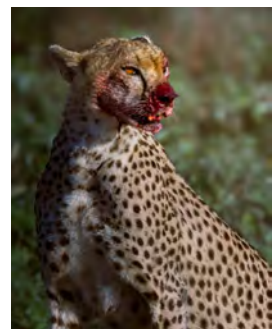
Steve O'Melia  
STEAM!!!



Janice Phillips  
Wisconsin Capital Building



Scott Ryberg  
Curious



Doreen Lawrence  
After the Hunt

# February 2026 Monthly Print Competition 1st Place Images

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## Blue ribbons



Jerome Hamilton  
Amargosa Opera House



John Johnson  
Caddy Grill



Juliana Stratton  
Thinking Pink



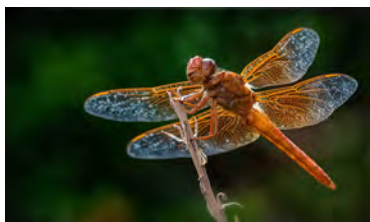
Terri Hutchings  
Sunset at Jockey Ridge



Philip Cenicola  
Inside Looking Out



Stephen Cupp  
Lounging



Rolando Adriano  
Mother of Dragon...Flies



John Johnson  
Pike's Trio



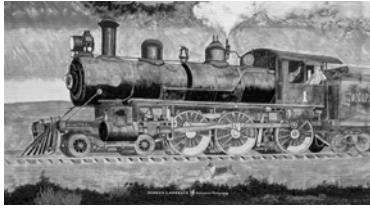
Jim Ludwick  
Arch Rock - Valley of Fire



Julia Mejorada  
Sealed in Salt

## February 2026 Monthly Print Competition 1st Place Images

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Doreen Lawrence  
Iron Horse

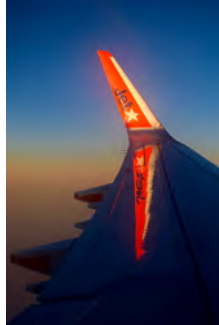
*Blue ribbons*



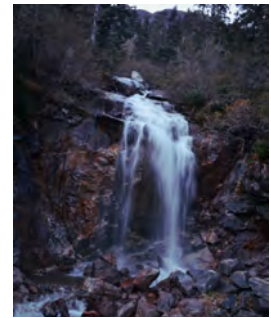
Michael Stratton  
Fresh Fruit



Jim Ludwick  
Stormy Race



Scott Ryberg  
JetStar



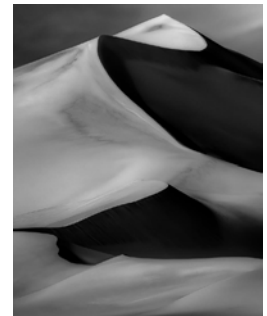
John Johnson  
Waterfall



Julia Mejorada  
Rosetee Shape



Ken Lawrence  
The King



Doreen Lawrence  
Wind Carved

# NEVADA CAMERA CLUB

## 2026 PSA-WORLDWIDE SPECIAL COMPETITION



For assistance contact: Special Competitions Chairperson by email at [specialcomps@nevadacc.org](mailto:specialcomps@nevadacc.org) or leave a message at 1-866-925-1447.

### RULES:

#### 1. WHO MAY ENTER

Any Nevada Camera Club member in good standing as of March 31, 2026.

#### 2. HOW TO ENTER

Images are to be submitted electronically online. Each entrant may submit a total of six (6) images. There is no entry fee. Entries must be submitted at <https://nevadacc.org/2026-psa-worldwide-special-competition> by 11:59 PM on Friday, April 17, 2026.

#### 3. CATEGORIES

There are no categories for this competition. Images may be either color or monochrome. All images submitted must have been taken within the state of Nevada or within 50 miles of Las Vegas. For example, images taken in Death Valley or the Mojave Preserve would be permissible. Images taken at Zion National Park or Lake Havasu (AZ) would not be.

#### 4. MULTIMEDIA SHOWING

Images selected will be included in a multimedia presentation to the Photographic Society of America Worldwide Photo Festival to be held at the Rio Hotel in Las Vegas, September 13-19, 2026. The presentation is designed to showcase the work of Nevada Camera Club members as the host club in addition to showing attendees some of the photographic opportunities in Las Vegas and the surrounding area and the state of Nevada.

#### 5. AWARDS

All images submitted will receive a merit point. Images selected for the presentation will each receive an additional 2 POY points.

#### 6. JUDGING

Images will be judged by a panel of photographic judges. **The decision of the judges is final.**

#### 7. IMAGE REQUIREMENTS

Entries must have been photographed by the entrant. Images may be horizontal, vertical or square.

Horizontal Image – The width must not exceed 1920 pixels. If the height exceeds 1200 pixels, the height should be resized to 1200 pixels or less and the width

should be adjusted to maintain the original aspect ratio.

Vertical Image – The height must not exceed 1200 pixels.

Square Image – Width and height must not exceed 1200 pixels.

Although there is no minimum size, it is to the advantage of each entrant to make the dimensions as large as possible without exceeding the maximum dimensions listed above.

File format must be **JPEG** using **.jpg** as the file extension.

Color depth must not exceed 24 bits per pixel. **All files should be set at 254 dpi.**

Nothing identifying the maker of the image, such as a signature or watermark, may be included on the image.

The entries need to comply with the above requirements to be projected, both for the judges and for the multimedia presentation. If an image is not in JPEG format, if an image exceeds 1920 pixels in width or 1200 pixels in height, if the image maker is identified in any way, it will be disqualified and will not be judged.

Images that have previously been awarded blue ribbons in Nevada Camera Club Special Competitions **are** eligible for this event.

#### 8. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

The entrant grants to the Nevada Camera Club the right to display submitted images during the multimedia presentation at the 2026 PSA-Worldwide Photo Festival. The entrant also grants to the Photographic Society Of America - Worldwide permission to use chosen images on its website or in its print publications with appropriate photo credit. All other rights remain with the entrant.





# NEVADA CAMERA CLUB

## 2026 ANNUAL OPEN PRINT

For assistance contact: Special Competitions Chairperson by email at [specialcomps@nevadacc.org](mailto:specialcomps@nevadacc.org) or leave a message at 1-866-925-1447.

### RULES:

#### 1. WHO MAY ENTER

Open to anyone of any age.

#### 2. WHERE TO ENTER

Entries will be accepted on Friday, March 13, 2026 at the Fellowship Hall of St. Andrew Lutheran Church, 8901 Del Webb Blvd., Las Vegas, from **6:00 PM to 6:30 PM**.

#### 3. HOW TO ENTER

For each print, please fill out a separate print entry form. The print entry form must be securely taped on the back of the print in the top center. Also, complete the summary form. Fill out the summary form with details on each of your entries. **Please complete the online version of this form.** Mac users - this form works best in a browser other than Safari.

#### 4. DIVISIONS

(C) Color (M) Monochromatic

#### 5. CATEGORIES

Categories designated with a # are governed by the Special Competitions definitions.

For category definitions, visit <https://tinyurl.com/3hkmt9ee>

(AB) Abstract	(PI) Pictorial
(AP) Animal/Pets	(PJ) Photojournalism*
(CM) Commercial	(PO) Portraiture
(CR) Creative	(ST) Still Life
(DO) Documentary*	(TR) Travel* #
(NA) Nature* #	(UC) Unclassified
(PE) People	(WL) Wildlife* #

\*NOTE: No specific category is defined by technique. Subject matter must be the defining parameter. Care must be taken in the Documentary, Nature, Photojournalism, Travel, and Wildlife categories. Normal photographic processes may be used to enhance the image quality in these five reality based categories but must not be used to alter the truth of the photographic statement. This means not altering the factual representation. **All photographic elements of the entries in all categories except Creative must have been taken by the entering photographer.**

#### 6. NUMBER OF ENTRIES AND FEES

Each entrant may submit a total of 8 prints. Entry fee is \$4.00 per print for Nevada Camera Club members and students. All others pay \$5.00 per entry.

#### 7. JUDGING

Prints will be judged by three photographic judges. Judges have the right to recategorize prints. **The decision of the judges is final.**

#### 8. RETURN OF PRINTS

Prints will be returned to photographers at the July program meeting of NCC in the Fellowship Hall of St. Andrew Lutheran Church. Presentation of the entry receipt by anyone will be proof that the individual has permission to pick up prints for the owner. Prints not picked up within 90 days become the property of Nevada Camera Club, P.O. Box 19451, Las Vegas, NV 89132. Under no circumstances may prints be removed from the exhibit during the show.

#### 9. PRINT REQUIREMENTS

The long side of the print must be at least 8". Slimlines are allowed. Exceptions to this rule are allowed for contact prints (must be at least 4"x5") and Polaroid transfer prints (no minimum size). Maximum print size is 16"x20". All entries must be printed on photographic paper. Alternative materials including but not limited to wood, metal or acrylic, for example, are not acceptable. Prints must be **securely** mounted by tape or glue on RIGID stock, e.g., mount board or foamcore. **No hinge mats are allowed.** Heavy materials such as Masonite or Lucite are not acceptable. No loose prints will be accepted.

Minimum mount size is 8"x10". **Maximum mount size is 16"x 20"**. Window mat(s) are optional. No glass or plastic covering or frames are allowed. Prints not in accordance with the above will be disqualified.

#### 10. AWARDS

At the judges' discretion, 1st, 2nd, 3rd and honorable mention ribbons may be awarded for prints in each of the 28 categories. Each category will have a Best of Category image chosen from the two first place division winners in the category. A Best of Show ribbon and a \$100.00 cash prize will be awarded in each division. (Monochromatic and Color).

#### 11. EXHIBIT

By entering the competition, the photographer agrees to have his/her images on display for the entirety of the exhibit. Prints will be on display at the Lloyd D. George United States Courthouse, 333 S. Las Vegas Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89101 from April 7 to June 18, 2026. **No prints may be removed from the exhibition prior to 9:00 AM on June 18, 2026.**

#### 12. MISCELLANEOUS

Prints that have won a first place ribbon in a previous Nevada Camera Club Annual Print Competition are not eligible. Entries must have been photographed by the entrant. Film and prints may be commercially processed. The Nevada Camera Club and the District Court are not responsible for lost or damaged prints. Nude and semi-nude photographs and subject matter not acceptable to District Court officials may not be exhibited. They may, however, be accepted for judging only.

### Entry Summary Form - 2026

Name:

Address:

Phone:  Email:

CAT	DIV	IMAGE TITLE

Print this form when completed and turn in with images and entry fees.

**PRINT ENTRY FORMS**  
**ATTACH TO THE CENTER TOP BACK OF EACH ENTRY.**

CATEGORY:	DIVISION:	2026	Name
TITLE OF PRINT:			

CATEGORY:	DIVISION:	2026	
TITLE OF PRINT:			

CATEGORY:	DIVISION:	2026	
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TITLE OF PRINT:			

CATEGORY:	DIVISION:	2026	
TITLE OF PRINT:			

## Nevada Camera Club Contact List

### NCC Officers

President	Edward Lee Stiglitz	702-271-5011
Vice President	Narcy Alprecht	702-281-2569
Secretary	Jim Ludwick	443-994-4896
Treasurer	Mary Sheets	702-521-9569

### NCC Committees and Trustees

#### Advertising/Resident Agent

Mary Sheets 702-521-9569  
 Beginners Group  
 Serena Scalzi

#### Club Apparel

Juliana Stratton 702-860-8394

#### Club Publications

Linda Hicks 219-477-0750

#### Community Liaison

Darryl Ginwright 808-782-5955

#### Competitions (Monthly Electronic)

Craig Hicks 702-497-5753

#### Competitions (Monthly Print)

Paul Bessette 702-561-7265

#### Education

Harry Ghuman 650-454-0751

#### Exhibit Display Modules

Michael Stratton 702-300-5027

#### Field Trips

#### House

Ron Fraass 702-544-0513

#### Internet Administrator

Stephen Cupp  
[lvthunder@lvthunder.com](mailto:lvthunder@lvthunder.com)

#### Membership

Julia Mejorada  
[mejoradajulia@gmail.com](mailto:mejoradajulia@gmail.com)

#### Merits

Linda Hicks 219-477-0750

#### Programs

Jerome Hamilton 702-682-9514

#### PSA Liaison

Jerome Hamilton 702-682-9514

#### Public Relations/Social Media

Ken Lawrence 505-250-5930

#### Treasurer Emeritus

Mary Sheets 702-363-2818

#### Welcoming

John Johnson 702-281-2569

#### Trustees

Valerie Christiansen 702-375-4492

Allan Duff 702-682-9688

Jackie Strat 732-829-8551

Contact us at [info@nevadacc.org](mailto:info@nevadacc.org)

### Membership Information

Annual dues: \$48 for adults, \$36 for juniors (under 18) and students or seniors (63 and over). Dues are prorated for persons joining after January. Members automatically receive Focal Expressions. For further membership information call Julia Mejorada, [mejoradajulia@gmail.com](mailto:mejoradajulia@gmail.com)

### Meeting Location Map



Change Service Requested

First Class Mail

1-866-925-1447

Las Vegas, NV 89132

P.O. Box 19451

Nevada Camera Club

