

Focal Point

Baltimore Camera Club

The Oldest Continually-Operating Photographic Society in the USA (Incorporated in 1884)



Woman In Red © Roger Miller (Second Place Unlimited Color Print, November 2018)

Editor's Corner

Thanks to Tom Beck, Diane Bovenkamp, Richard Eskin, Kaye Flamm, Glenn and Vella Kendall, Karen Messick, Roger Miller, Mike Navarre, Gordon Risk, and Jim Voeglein for their contributions to this issue.



Happy Holidays!

As you may have noticed, this is an unusually 'thin' issue of the Focal Point (less than 50 pages). It's a great opportunity to highlight original articles like those submitted by Tom Beck and Gordon Risk. I'm also giving a shout-out to Rich Eskin with a page full of inspiring quotes from his Monday Missives (yes, we do read them).

Please peruse the pages to find more interesting tidbits. My editorial photo below is a panoramic shot of Ed-

gar Allan Poe Square (<http://www.poeinbaltimore.org/poe-house/>) with a 'photo-bomb' by President Jim Voeglein at the club shoot in December. If you haven't been to Poe House yet, then please go (and go to the 5th Annual PoeZella on January 19—info on p. 15). The results of the Poe-themed Digi Comp are on page 10-11.

Cheers!

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2018-2019 BCC Leadership

Board of Directors:

President: Jim Voeglein

1st VP, Programs: Vickie Gray

2nd VP, Competitions: Marcus Dagold

Secretary: Marilyn LeMay Patterson

Treasurer: Orton Cartwright

Members at Large: Roger Miller, Scott Houston, Sukumar Balachandran, Sandy Nichols

Committee Members and Key Volunteers:

Competition Committee: Sukumar Balachandran, Karen Dillon, Kaye Flamm, Vella Kendall, Roger Miller, Jim Voeglein

House Committee: Gary Faulkner

Nominating Committee: Lewis Katz

Field Outing Committee: Lewis Katz, Karen Dillon

Member & Visitor Badges: Scott Houston

Banquet Coordinator: Gary Faulkner

Website Coordinator: Kaye Flamm

Photographic Society of America Club Representative for BCC: Diane Bovenkamp

Focal Point Editor: Diane Bovenkamp

(d.bovenkamp@yahoo.com)

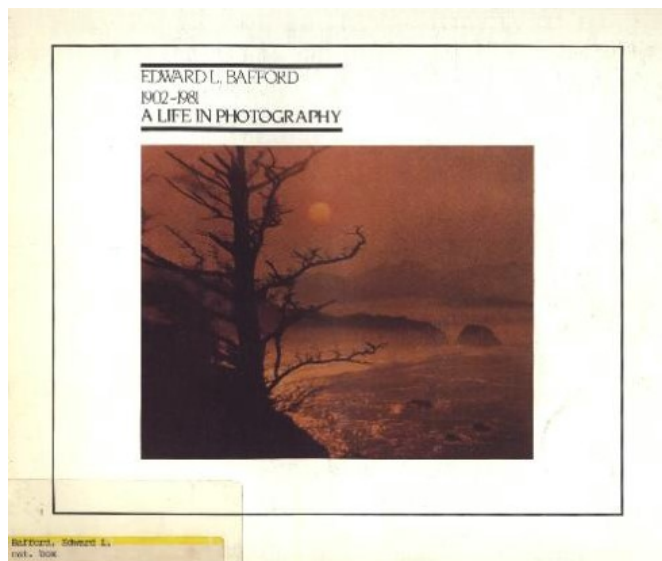
The Baltimore Camera Club meets every Thursday night at Mount Washington United Methodist Church (5800 Cottonworth Ave., Baltimore, MD, 21209). Visitors are welcome (meeting starts at 8 p.m., but social gathering begins at 7:30 p.m.). For more club information, email the Club President, Jim Voeglein, jvoeglein@gmail.com & visit our website www.baltimorecameraclub.org.



Editorial Image: Edgar Allan Poe Square Panorama © 2018 Diane Bovenkamp

Edward L. Bafford--Storyteller By Tom Beck

Editor's Note: Tom Beck is the Chief Curator Emeritus and Affiliate Associate Professor of Art at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC), and an Honorary Lifetime Member of BCC. He sent me this "short recollection of Bafford" a while back, and I waited to put it in a "thinner" issue of Focal Point, so that the article would receive the attention that it deserves. Please keep the articles coming, Tom! Note that Mr. Bafford was a significant contributor to the club, and there is an award given every year at the Annual Banquet and Awards Ceremony that takes place in June. The Bafford Button is given to "The Most Significant Contributor to the Club Activities for the Year." Please also note the Tom wrote a book in 1981 called "Edward L. Bafford 1902-1981: A Life in Photography" that is listed on Amazon (<https://www.amazon.com/EDWARD-L-BAFFORD-1902-Photography/dp/B0050K8WBO>), and available at the UMBC Albin O. Kuhn Library and Gallery in their Special Collection (<https://library.umbc.edu/speccoll/publications.php>). UMBC also has a digital page with information on Mr. Bafford and copies of a series of audio recordings of his "Bafford Class" <https://library.umbc.edu/speccoll/findingaids/coll206.php>



Edward Bafford was a natural storyteller. Whether one had just met him, or had known him for years, a conversation would almost invariably become an occasion for a story about such subjects as swapping photographs with Alfred Stieglitz, or how a particular one of his photographs was made, or having done just one shoot for the Farm Security Administration in the 1930s, or knowing A. Aubrey Bodine. However, his photographs were really his richest storytelling occasions of all.

One of his earliest photographs, "Iron Horse's Bath" made during World War I, tells the story of a railroad worker power washing a steam engine in the Baltimore rail yards. One sees the man bent before the drive wheels of the engine which are nearly as large as the man is tall. Facing the wheels from the left, he is wearing heavy gloves and gripping the hose and nozzle while spraying the wheels with such force that a fog covers the ground in front of the worker all along the engine and obscures the rails on which the massive engine sits. The image dramatizes a routine job and shows the viewer a pictorially dynamic moment.

Another example is "Johnny Appleseed," a 1950's bromoil which looks more lithographic than photographic. The image tells the story of "Johnny Appleseed [Chapman]," the legendary planter of apple trees in the eastern and central U.S. and Canada. In Bafford's image, we see the figure representing Johnny striding away from the viewer out into a misty landscape with a basket over his left arm and a walking stick in his right hand. The image suggests that the seeds which Chapman was known to have collected from apple mash were in the basket. The soft and grainy bromoil process gives a romantic turn to the story.

In the same way that details are obscured by the mist in "Johnny Appleseed," they did not matter so much in Bafford's verbal stories. Facts were not as important to him as was art. He had a keen eye for a pleasing image as well as a good story.

Collector's Corner: *Foth Cameras*

By Gordon Risk



Gordon Risk © 2012
Diane Bovenkamp

C. F. Foth & Co was founded in approximately 1925 as an optical and mechanical company in Poland. In 1926, a factory was opened in Berlin where the company stayed in business until 1940 when the company was dissolved.

Other than cameras, they also produced radio-headphones, binoculars, optical lenses and equipment. Pictures A and B show the FOTH DERBY, produced from 1930 to 1940 with various improvements. Using 127 film, it has a strut folding lens panel with extending bellows and a cloth focal plane shutter capable of shutter speeds of 1/500th of a second. It was marketed as a vest pocket camera.

Pictures C and D show the FOTHFLEX II twin lens reflex produced between 1935 and 1940. This version features a wide range of speeds, including up to a two second exposure time. The unusual focus lever on front of the camera, between the lenses, replaced the knob winder after 1938. This is a 120 roll film camera giving twelve 2 1/4" square images and also has a focal plane shutter like the FOTH DERBY. Other features include a delayed action self-timer, set by the lever on the left side of the camera, an automatic counter, and self-erecting hood with focusing magnifier. FOTH also produced folding and plate cameras, typical of the time.

Picture
A



Picture
B



Picture
C



Picture
D



November 2018 Monochrome and Color Print Competitions



1st Place

Monochrome Print - Novice
Singing the Blues
Sandy Nichols



3rd Place

Monochrome Print - Novice
Parallel universes
Ran Zeimer



1st Place

Monochrome Print - Unlimited
Boat House
Arthur Ransome



2nd Place

Monochrome Print - Unlimited
Dont Look Back
Arthur Ransome



3rd Place

Monochrome Print - Unlimited
Aspen Trees in Winter
Joan Saba



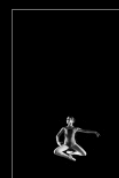
4th Place

Monochrome Print - Unlimited
perfect presentation
Roger Miller



5th Place

Monochrome Print - Unlimited
Tabacco Farmer
Joan Saba



Honorable Mention

Monochrome Print - Unlimited
Dancer
Arthur Ransome



1st Place

Color Print - Novice
Pretending
Ran Zeimer



2nd Place

Color Print - Novice
First Light at Rehoboth
Marjorie Pryse



Honorable Mention

Color Print - Novice
Argentinian mountains
Ran Zeimer



1st Place

Color Print - Unlimited
Reflection
Harry Bosk



2nd Place

Color Print - Unlimited
women in red
Roger Miller



3rd Place

Color Print - Unlimited
The perfect women
Roger Miller



4th Place

Color Print - Unlimited
On the Streets of Hanoi
Joan Saba



5th Place

Color Print - Unlimited
Laundry-Day-in-Rural-PA
Gary Faulkner



Honorable Mention

Color Print - Unlimited
Chesapeake-Sunset
Gary Faulkner

November 2018 Monochrome Print First Place Images



1st Place
Monochrome Print - Novice
Singing the Blues
Sandy Nichols



1st Place
Monochrome Print - Unlimited
Boat House
Arthur Ransome

November 2018 Color Print First Place Images



1st Place
Color Print - Novice
Pretending
Ran Zeimer



1st Place
Color Print - Unlimited
Reflection
Harry Bosk

November 2018 Digital Competitions



1st Place

Projected Digital - Novice
Yosemite Winter
Thomas Gisriel



2nd Place

Projected Digital - Novice
United We Stand
Chris Scroggins



3rd Place

Projected Digital - Novice
Tyler
Walter Levy



4th Place

Projected Digital - Novice
Snowy Day
Wendy Miller



5th Place

Projected Digital - Novice
Red White and Blue
Linda Lund



Honorable Mention

Projected Digital - Novice
Cowboy in Training
Sandy Nichols



1st Place

Projected Digital - Unlimited
Sheep Shearing
Karen Dillon



2nd Place

Projected Digital - Unlimited
Portrait of a Young Man
Lewis Katz



3rd Place

Projected Digital - Unlimited
Milwaukee Art Museum
Kaye Flamm



4th Place

Projected Digital - Unlimited
Windy Peaks, Mount Whitney
Michael Navarre



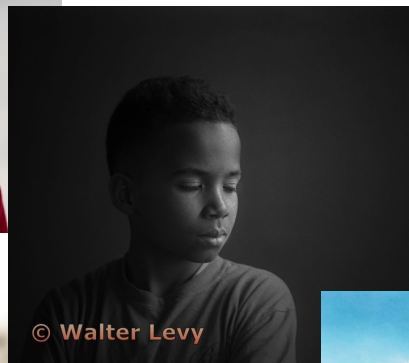
5th Place

Projected Digital - Unlimited
Top of the World
Vella Kendall



Honorable Mention

Projected Digital - Unlimited
Colors of the Past
Kaye Flamm



November 2018 Digital First Place Images



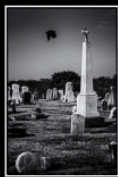
1st Place
Projected Digital - Novice
Yosemite Winter
Thomas Gisriel



1st Place
Projected Digital - Unlimited
Sheep Shearing
Karen Dillon

December 2018 Digital Competitions

Themed: "Images Inspired by Writings of Edgar Allan Poe That Were Penned at the Poe House In Baltimore"



1st Place

Projected Digital - Novice
Of horror, and mystery, and death.
Robert Sullivan



2nd Place

Projected Digital - Novice
Morella
Walter Levy



3rd Place

Projected Digital - Novice
"... the shop of Will Wimble the undertaker"
Linda Lund



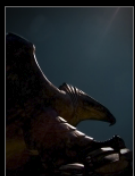
4th Place

Projected Digital - Novice
Poe and Friends
Charles Levie



5th Place

Projected Digital - Novice
The wearied light is lying down...
Robert Sullivan



Honorable Mention

Projected Digital - Novice
Shadow - A Parable
Walter Levy



1st Place

Projected Digital - Unlimited
The Message
Sukumar Balachandran



2nd Place

Projected Digital - Unlimited
"And the shadow rested..."
Kaye Flamm



3rd Place

Projected Digital - Unlimited
Lionizing
Vella Kendall



4th Place

Projected Digital - Unlimited
The Shadow was vague
Sukumar Balachandran



5th Place

Projected Digital - Unlimited
*Latin Hymn: He has given us more
Red gallons of gore*
Richard Eskin



Honorable Mention

Projected Digital - Unlimited
MS FOUND IN A BOTTLE
Roger Miller



© Sukumar Balachandran

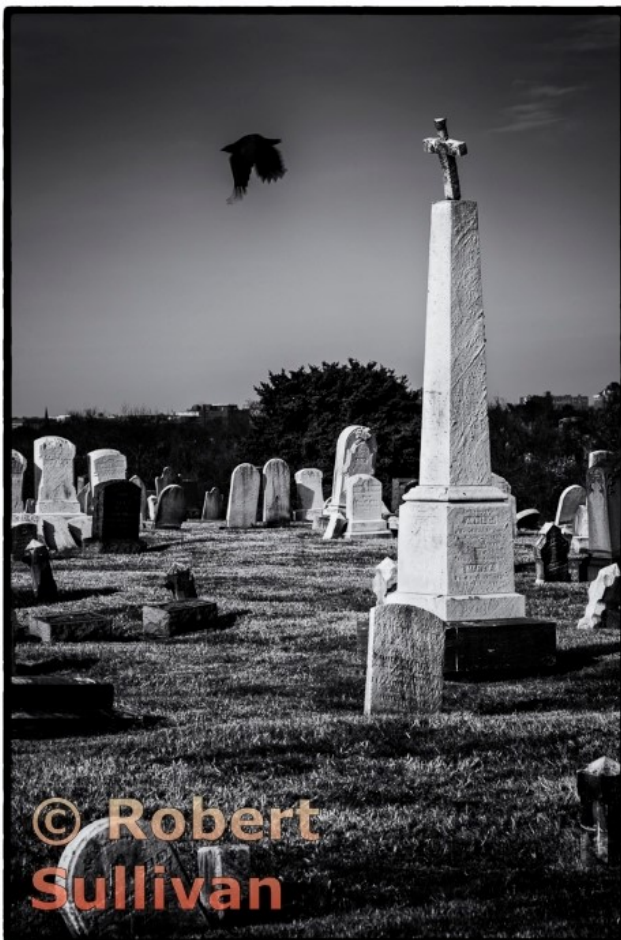


© Kaye Flamm

December 2018 Digital First Place Images
Themed: “Images Inspired by Writings of Edgar Allan Poe That Were Penned at the Poe House In Baltimore”

1st Place

Projected Digital - Novice
Of horror, and mystery, and death.
Robert Sullivan



1st Place

Projected Digital - Unlimited
The Message
Sukumar Balachandran



PSA Creative Interclub Competition Ribbon Presentation

By Diane Bovenkamp (photo contributions by Roger Miller)

Last issue, I gave detailed information about the 3D and Creative Photographic Society of America (PSA) interclub competitions BCC entered this past year. I gave snapshots of the numerous distinctions given to award-winners in the Creative division (please visit Issue 134, Number 1: June-October 2018). On November 29, as BCC PSA representative, I presented ribbons to those members able to make it to the club. Below are some images from that evening, including the ribbon presentation to Rich Eskin. Kudos to the other winners, and all members of BCC who entered images in the interclub competitions, including Sukumar Balachandran, Charles Bowers, Karen Dillon, Rich Eskin, Kaye Flamm, Tom Fretz, James Lubitz, and Jon Meyer, regardless of whether their images placed!



Karen Messick: Lifetime Member of BCC

Photo By Roger Miller and Words By Diane Bovenkamp



In the image with Karen Messick are (l to r): Kay Muldoon-Ibrahim, Harry Bosk, and Lewis Katz

Kudos to Karen Messick, former BCC President, photographer extraordinaire, and now Lifetime Member of BCC!

We were saddened to see Karen leave Baltimore for sunny Hawaii, but we have not lost a Member! Above is a photo of Karen when she visited the club in November 2018. Being awarded a Lifetime Membership in BCC is an honor given to only a few distinguished club members. Please keep coming back to see us on Thursday nights when you're in town, Karen, and please stay in touch!

Monday Missive Quotes Delivered Weekly By Rich Eskin

Editor's note: Kudos to Rich for sending weekly emails to our club. I have collected below a small selection of the latest informative, funny, and profound quotes that he has sent for our enjoyment, enrichment, and inspiration. In addition to these quotes, he provides a wealth of links to photography articles. We appreciate (and read) what you send us, Rich!

"You push the button, we do the rest." — **George Eastman** joy." — **Linda Pastan**

"The key to artistic photography is to work out your own thoughts, by yourselves. Imitation leads to certain disaster." — **Gertrude Käsebier**

"More and more are turning to photography as a medium of expression as well as communication. The leavening of aesthetic approaches continues. While it is too soon to define the characteristic of the photographic style today. One common denominator, rooted in tradition, seems in the ascendancy: the direct use of the camera for what it can do best, and that is the revelation interpretation and discovery of the world of man and of nature. The greatest challenge to the photographer is to express the inner significance through the outward form." — **Beaumont Newhall**

"I often think of that rare fulfilling joy, when I am in the presence of some wonderful alignment of events. Where the light, the colour, the shapes and the balance all interlock so beautifully that I feel truly overwhelmed by the wonder of it." — **Charlie Waite**

"To me, pictures are like blintzes – ya gotta get 'em while they're hot." — **Weegee**

"Creativity with portraits involves the invocation of a state of rapport when only a camera stands between two people...mutual vulnerability and mutual trust." — **Minor White**

"Most people go through life dreading they'll have a traumatic experience. Freaks were born with their trauma," she once wrote. "They've already passed their test in life. They're aristocrats." — **Diane Arbus**

"I'm trying to please myself; certainly that's a big criterion... though in a sense, I don't take images just for myself. I take images that I think other people will want to see. I don't take pictures to put in a box and hide them. I want as many people to see them as possible." — **Mary Ellen Mark**, Mary Ellen Mark : 25 Years by Marianne Fulton, Page: 14

"I was never much of a promoter of my work—I've probably given away more prints than I've sold." — **Herb Quick**

"Pilgrim leaves crowd the air with their falling every October. The journey is always the same." — **Linda Pastan**

"The ritual sadness of the season is more voluptuous than

"Art is, or ought to be, a reliable refuge for idiosyncrasy in a society that increasingly views the idiosyncratic with suspicion." — **Colin Dabkowski**

"The mystery isn't in the technique, it's in each of us." — **Harry Callahan**, More Joy of Photography by Eastman Kodak (Editor)

"Surrealism is destructive, but it destroys only what it considers to be shackles limiting our vision." — **Salvador Dali**

"In a photograph a person's eyes tell much, sometimes they tell all." — **Alfred Eisenstaedt**, Eisenstaedt: Remembrances by Bryan Holme, Doris C. O'Neil, Alfred Eisenstaedt, Barbara Baker Burrows

"Art is not about consensus. We need not agree over our reactions or our interpretations. Art that forces itself upon us and has as its chief goal our submission to it is not art, it's propaganda. ... Popular photography culture is wildly culpable of encouraging or desiring our consensus and the only thing that's going to lead to is homogeneity, mediocrity, and a narrowing of thought and experience. We must be challenged and art can do that, but only if we let it. To be challenged we must first listen to it." — **David duChemin**

"Our job is to record, each in his own way, this world of light and shadow and time that will never come again exactly as it is today." — **Edward Abbey**

"For me the creation of a photograph is experienced as a heightened emotional response, most akin to poetry and music, each image the culmination of a compelling impulse I cannot deny." — **Ruth Bernhard**

"I don't just look at the thing itself or at the reality itself; I look around the edges for those little askew moments – kind of like what makes up our lives – those slightly awkward, lovely moments." — **Keith Carter**

"I realize more and more what it takes to be a really good photographer. You go in over your head, not just up to your neck." — **Dorothea Lange**

"Along the way I tried to convey that while nature has power and fury and should always be respected, she can also be funny, elegant and whimsical." — **Ruth Fremson** about poem by Joy Harjo in How poems inspire pictures

Member News

Vella Kendall, of Monkton, MD, has won this month with the First Place Star Color: *Looking at You – Looking at Me*.

The judge, Tom Hady, APSA, MPSA, describes his reaction: "Technically, this print is well done: Exposure is right on. The eyes are sharp. You can see the texture of the feathers. The ripples on the water are just the right contrast so I feel wet when I look at it. What lifts it out of the ordinary, though, is the apparent expression of the duck and the emotion it produces, at least in this viewer. 'What, are you still hanging around? Get lost!' Every time I look at it, I smile."



Editor's note: Let's all wish Vella speedy recovery for her broken femur. Ouch! We miss you and can't wait for you to be able to come back to club meetings.

Hi Diane,

Vella now won *PSA's Pictorial Print of the Month for December 2018 (which was also the First Place Star Color for PSA's August Print of the Month)*. It's printed on the inside rear cover of the December issue of the PSA Journal and can also be seen at <https://psa-photo.org/index.php?2017-18-ppd-pom-aug-pom>. Apparently, PSA's "Pictorial" POM award derives from a previous "regular" POM (same image as appeared online for August 2018, shown to the right). Apparently, the only place the "Pictorial" version appears is on the inside back cover of the PSA's hardcopy monthly magazine.

Glenn Kendall

The Edgar Allan Poe House & Museum



203 N. Amity Street, Baltimore MD, 21223
Open Thursday thru Sunday
11AM to 4PM

\$8 Adults

\$6 Students/Military/Seniors


FREE Children 12 and under


The 5th Annual PoeZella Birthday Bash

By Poe Baltimore On December 6, 2018 · Add Comment

Events > 2019 > January > The 5th Annual PoeZella Birthday Bash

About this event:

 Created by Poe Baltimore

 Takes place on January 19, 2019 from 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm
Zella's Pizza 1145 Hollins Street Baltimore, MD 21223

Join us Saturday, January 19th, for a birthday bash celebration presented by Poe Baltimore and Zella's Pizza! This Poe-Zella of a party will feature special dramatic readings of Poe's work and a meet-and-greet with Poe Baltimore featured artist, **Crystal Micriotti**, as well as photographers from the **Baltimore Camera Club**, plus Poe-themed gallery exhibit. Yes, you can purchase their art to help support efforts at Baltimore's Poe House & Museum, all while noshing on Zella's fantastic food, plus a chance to meet lots of old and new friends.

Also, joins us for a special Facebook Live toast to Poe as we raise a glass and officially open the call for entries for **The Saturday "Visiter" Awards**. Join us!

Coming Attractions

January-March 2019

2018-2019	Event	Info
Thursday, January 3	Print Competition 4	Theme: Open; Judge: Jennifer Bishop http://jenniferbishoppphotography.com/
Thursday, January 10	Program 11	Erin Douglas , photographer, winner of the Emerging Artist of the Year award at Artscape 2015, featured in The Baltimore Sun for her coverage of diversity at the Burning Man festival. Her linkedin page
Thursday, January 17	Digital Competition 5	Theme: Open
Thursday, January 24	Program 12	Norm Barker , MS, MA, RBP, FRPS, Professor of Pathology and Art as Applied to Medicine at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. In "Patent Medicine: Selling the Cure," he will present trade card images from the turn of the 20th century and explore several major themes involved in the advertising of patent medicines. Many of the images were beautiful examples of the printing technology "Chromolithography," and were produced locally at the A. Hoen Lithography Company in Baltimore. His Medical Art Page
Thursday, January 31	Print Competition 5	Theme: Open
Thursday, February 7	Program 13	Robert James Leonard , HonPSA, MPSA, AFIAP is the Chairman and Treasurer, of the 3D Division of the Photographic Society of America. He will be giving a presentation on how to do "3D Stereophotography." While known primarily for his sports and 3-dimension stereo photography, Bob works in all photographic areas. Bob's photographs have received over 900 awards in juried exhibitions, including two PPD Color Print of the Year awards and a Stereo Photograph of the Year award. In 2007, Bob was PSAs top 3D slide photographer in the world. He has published over 800 photographs and 230 articles in periodicals and books including the PSA Journal, Stopwatcher, Stereoscapy, Stereo World, and Tex-U.S. Racing News. https://psa-photo.org/index.php?r-leonard-1299 . Members of the Potomac Society of Stereo Photographers will also be attending the presentation (https://www.facebook.com/PotomacSocietyOfStereoPhotographers/).
Thursday, February 14	Digital Comp 6	Theme: Open
Thursday, February 21	Program 14	TBD
Thursday, February 28	Print Competition 6	Theme: Open
Thursday, March 7	Program 15	Janet Little Jeffers : Janet is a Baltimore-based artist specializing in digital photography. After working in the fields of graphic design, interior design and broadcasting she committed to a full-time career as a graphic artist in 2009. Her work explores intimate and abstract details in the natural and abstract world, and she thrives on exploration, whether in her hometown or a remote destination. Some of her recent projects include work from Cuba, Greenland and Antarctica. https://www.janetjeffers.com/index
Thursday, March 14	Digital Comp 7	Theme: Open
Thursday, March 21	Program 16	Club Critique Night
Thursday, March 28	Print Competition 7	Theme: Open

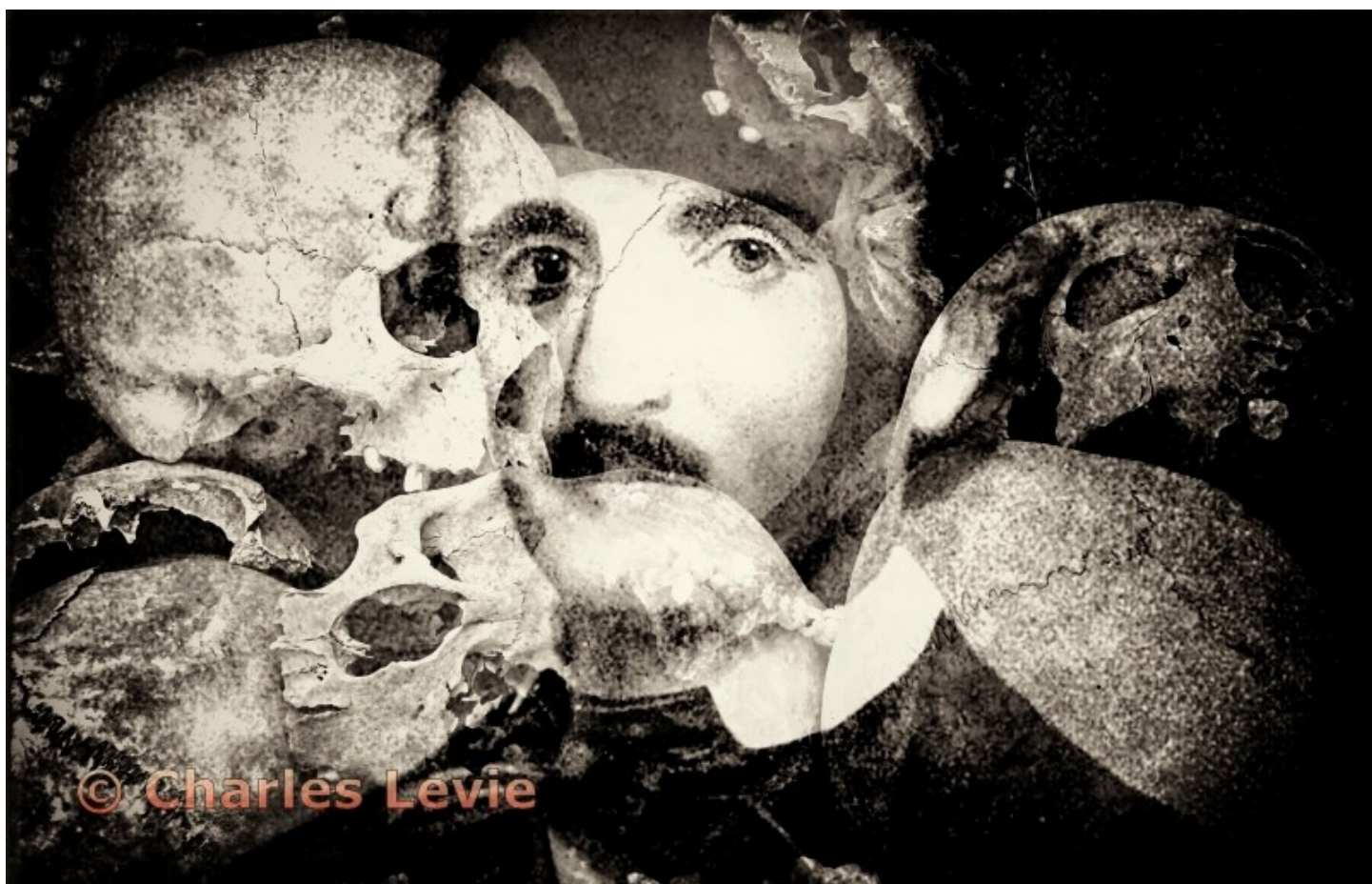
Focal Point

Baltimore Camera Club

The Oldest Continually-Operating Photographic Society in the USA (Incorporated in 1884)



Parting Shot



Poe and Friends © Charles Levie (4th Place, December 2018 Themed Digital Competition: "Images Inspired by Writings of Edgar Allan Poe That Were Penned at the Poe House In Baltimore")



The Baltimore Camera Club is a Charter Member Club
of the Photographic Society of America

www.psa-photo.org

[PSA-Member Clubs and Councils Overview](#)

[PSA Mid-Atlantic Chapter \(PSA-MAC\)](#)

Future PSA Conference:

Spokane, Washington from September 22-28, 2019

