

SIERRA PHOTO | NYC

New York City Sierra Club Photography Committee Newsletter

January/February 2015 Issue | Vol. 38, No. 3

sierraphotonyc.com

Meetings | The Metropolitan Opera Guild Learning Center • 70 Lincoln Center Plaza • 6th floor
Samuel B. and David Rose Building at Lincoln Center • West 65th Street between Broadway and Amsterdam • NY, NY 10023
Suggested donation \$6.00 • Optional dinner after each meeting. The restaurant will be announced at the meeting.

January

Wednesday, January 28, 2015—6:30 PM / Doors open at 6:00 PM

Sean Crane

Stories from the Field: Getting the Shot When the Subject Doesn't Necessarily Want to Be Gotten

SEAN CRANE'S DAY JOB is as a creative director for New York's largest advertising agency, but when he's not convincing the world to buy things that they may or may not need, he's out photographing wildlife. His travels have taken him to all seven continents where he has documented everything from the smallest of invertebrates to the largest of mammals. His photos have been published widely in all media, and he has won awards from the BBC, the Smithsonian and the National Geographic Society, among others.

Unlike the models used in his advertising campaigns, the world's wild creatures aren't always as accommodating when it comes to posing for the shot. In his presentation, Sean will share some of his favorite images from around the globe and the stories behind what it took to get the shot.



Red lechwe dashing through the shallow waters of the Okavango Delta, Botswana © Sean Crane

Sean and his wife Karen live in Brooklyn. To see more of his work, go to www.seancrane.com and sign up for his popular *Photo of the Day* blog.

February

Wednesday, February 25, 2015—6:30 PM / Doors open at 6:00 PM

Three-in-One: Charles Chessler, David Francis, Judy Rosenblatt

Charles Chessler

Birds: Mostly Central Park Plus a Little South of the Border

He never knew what beauty was lurking in the wilds of Central Park until he picked up a camera in 2005 and soon discovered an entire world in his backyard that rivaled anything he'd seen in magazines and on TV. He is happy to share some of that world with his fellow nature lovers.

Charles started out as an actor and gave it up when it was no longer fun. He was left with an enormous creative vacuum. He was living on the West Side and so to ease the stress of his father's illness he started walking through the park in all seasons—carrying a camera—everyday. This opened up the beauty of Central Park and its winged inhabitants for him and filled that creative vacuum. He could not have imagined that it would become his life's work.

(See Page 3 of the newsletter for photographs)

David Francis

Living Inside Your Dream (Dream to Live and Then Live Your Dream)

He began taking snapshots around ten years of age or so, partly to keep occupied and also as creative outlet. He likes to think that his photographic eye was developed by looking at the thousands of images contained in the *National Geographic* and other magazines his father collected.

He combined his love of photography and travel and sharing his experiences with friends and family via the photos. He joined the digital age a few years ago, and enjoys capturing nature in all of its forms, as well as the natural expressions of people in their day-to-day life. He believes that he was given a gift, and happily shares that with all of you who want to participate in his journey.

Judy Rosenblatt

Wild About the High Line—and Other Wild Places Nearby

This show will include images of the interplay between the High Line's old railroad tracks and the natural growth sprouting up among them, some "sidewalk gardens" in upper Manhattan that became pretty wild looking in the fall, and some images from recent Sierra Club outings.

Photography has been a continuing challenge to Judy since she returned to it on retiring in 1985. It was an old interest from her days as a stay-at-home mom when she had a darkroom in the linen closet. She worked in black and white exclusively until joining the Sierra Club in 1996.

A Note from the Chair

Each January the new slate of eight Board members is submitted to the membership for election at the January meeting. The board is responsible for planning our meetings, events and exhibits. This year's nominees are: Lee Backer, Anne Chamberlain, Eileen Duranko, Bill Frick, Raquel Gonzalez, Harvey Kopel, Nancy Langer and Tom Wismuller. Board members are elected for one-year terms and can serve for no more than four consecutive years. The new Board will convene in February.

It takes the work of many people to keep our meetings running smoothly and to be a place we all enjoy coming to. I want to thank our previous Board members: Lee Backer, Anne Chamberlain, Bill Frick, Trudy Fritschi, Harvey Kopel and Tom Wismuller. They all worked hard together to create a wonderful year, full of memorable meetings and events! Our Holiday party in December was a fine example of this. The Board members extended themselves to make it all happen beautifully! I am always grateful to our Off-Board members, Jacqui Bonavito, Corinna Chifari, Helen Pine, Claudia Schellenberg and Stephanie Schmidt who provide the backbone operations that keep the NYCSCPC working smoothly.

In March 2015, we will mark the 40th anniversary of the NYCSCPC that has been bringing together nature photographers and enthusiasts who support the Sierra Club's environmental goals. 40 years of providing our members' speaker programs with fine nature photographers, photo outings, members' photography exhibits and, most important of all, a sense of community for all of us who love to create nature photographs. May the next year be an exciting one for all of you! May the next 40 years be as exciting for future members as the last 40 years have been for us!

—Charles Dexter, *Chair*

Winter/Spring 2015 Outings

Date: Sunday, January 18, 2015

Location: Central Park, NYC

Meet: West 103 Street walk-in entrance

Photograph: Hopefully snowy woods, fields, an icy bog and a pond

Hike: Long stroll through the park; possibly slippery paths; blizzard could be great!

Additional information: plan for long afternoon in cold weather and wind; wear warm layers, boots, hat and gloves; bring lunch, snacks and water

NYC start: 11:00 am, shoot until dark, about 5:10 pm; dinner somewhere in the area afterward

Leader: Charles Dexter, 212-315-1963, call until 10:30 pm

Date: Saturday, February 7, 2015

Location: Stony Brook in Harriman State Park, NY

Photograph: Winter landscape and macros, hopefully with snow and ice, maybe mud and rushing water in the stream

Hike: Along Stony Brook, rocky, possibly slippery trails; blizzard cancels

Additional information: Plan for long day in cold weather and wind; wear warm layers, boots, hat and gloves; bring lunch, snacks and water

NYC start: 9:00 am shoot until dark, about 5:20 pm; dinner afterward

NYC Return: 9:30 pm

Leader: Charles Dexter, 212-315-1963, call until 10:30 pm

Date: Saturday, February 28, 2015

Location: Planting Fields Arboretum, Oyster Bay, Long Island

Photograph: Large colorful camellia blossoms, orchids and various greenhouse flowers. Close-up lenses are helpful; tripods may or may not be allowed in greenhouses; rules uncertain at this time

Additional information: Plan for both damp cool, and warm steamy greenhouse environments after coming inside from a cold day. Bring lunch, snacks and water

NYC start: 8:45 am, long day shoot; dinner in Oyster Bay afterward

NYC return: 8:30 or 9:00 pm

Leader: Charles Dexter, 212-315-1963, call until 10:30 pm

Date: March 14, 2015

Location: Delaware Water Gap region in NJ and/or PA

Photograph: Waterfalls (hopefully with snow & ice!)

Hike: Short, but possibly slippery trails and stones; blizzard cancels

Additional information: Plan for full day of cold weather; wear hiking boots, layered clothing, wool hat, gloves and rain gear; bring lunch, snacks and water; dinner in diner afterward

NYC Start: 9:30 am

NYC Return: 10:00 pm

Leader: Charles Dexter, 212-315-1963, call until 10:30 pm

Date: Date to be determined by cherry blossom blooming schedule: possibly Saturday, April 4, 11 or 18

Location: Branch Brook Park, Newark, NJ

Subject: Cherry blossoms, forsythia, hundreds of trees blooming pink and white in a park designed by Frederick Olmsted; perhaps shoot until sunset

Walk: Easy walkways in 1 mile area, slight hills

NYC start: 12:00 noon, lunch in park, afternoon shoot to sunset

Dinner in area to be determined

Additional information: Bring water, rain gear, walking shoes

Leader: Charles Dexter 212-315-1963 until 10:30 pm; car pool drivers greatly appreciated

Members of the Sierra Club Photography Committee Executive Board

Charles Dexter: Chair, Outings Leader, Sierra Club Liaison

Lee Backer: Recorder & Membership Coordinator

Anne Chamberlain: Membership Coordinator & Publicity

Eileen Duranko: Membership Coordinator & Projection

Bill Frick: Membership Coordinator

Trudy Fritschi: Membership Coordinator

Harvey Kopel: Membership Coordinator & Newsletter Mailing

Tom Wismuller: Membership Coordinator

Off-Board Members

Jacqui Bonavito: Newsletter & Web Designer, Committee Historian

Claudia Schellenberg: Treasurer

Raquel Gonzalez: Social Media Editor

Stephanie Schmidt: Director of Exhibits

Helen Pine: E-mail Communication Coordinator: sierraphotonyc@aol.com

Corinna Chifari: Newsletter Editor & Web Copy Editor: e-mail: cchifari@nyc.rr.com

Three-in-One

Photographs by Charles Chessler, David Francis and Judy Rosenblatt



Downy woodpecker in January, Central Park © Charles Chessler



"Serendipity," aurora borealis near Mt. Kirkjufell, Iceland © David Francis



High Line, Original Tracks © Judy Rosenblatt

Support our Internet presence

"Like" our Facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/sierraphotonyc>

Follow us on Twitter:
<https://twitter.com/sierraphotonyc>

Visit our website at:
<http://sierraphotonyc.com/>

Member Activities

Please send your Members Activities or field trip submissions by March 1, 2015, for the March/April 2015 issue, which will include activities from mid-March to mid-May, to Corinna Chifari at cchifari@nyc.rr.com. In the activity information include your name, a brief description and/or title of the event, the location, hours and contact information.

2015 Meeting Dates and Speakers

March 31, 2015
(Note: this is a Tuesday meeting)

April 29, 2015
(Additional dates to be announced)

If you are still receiving a printed copy of this newsletter in the mail, please send your e-mail address to Helen at sierraphotonyc@aol.com and receive a color PDF of the newsletter via e-mail.