



Reflecting, Capilano Suspension Bridge Park, Vancouver, Canada. © Anne Chamberlain

While there are no physical meetings scheduled for May or June, keep current on virtual activities through email or our website: <https://sierraphotonyc.com>

SierraPhoto NYC Updates

Visit with Three SierraPhoto NYC Volunteers

As these are the most unusual of times, the SierraPhoto NYC Group has had to adapt: the Board is trying new ways to provide safe activities and as much SierraPhoto spirit as possible.

One of the ways we thought we could provide our members with an upbeat note and show our appreciation to three hard-working volunteers was to invite them to present their own work in this issue. Anne Chamberlain has been doing an excellent job preparing the newsletter; Nancy Langer has uncovered many amazing and informative speakers; and Claudia Schellenberg has been very diligently managing the Group's finances. Although these three members are not currently on the Board, they have made ongoing significant contributions to SierraPhoto NYC, and their efforts, time and energy deserve to be recognized. Our continued thanks to all of them, and enjoy their images!

On another note, to maintain the health and welfare of everyone in our photo community, our May meeting has been cancelled, but an alternative activity has been arranged for the month. As you have been informed previously, SierraPhoto NYC has been offered and accepted a free remote technical seminar/webinar on May 7th at 1:00 p.m. by photographer Matt Kloskowski. who will discuss editing photos in Lightroom and Photoshop. The email you received on April 22nd includes the instructions to access this program. We encourage as many of you as possible to participate and hope it is helpful.

-Nina Edwards

As Nina has mentioned, we on the Board have been trying to think of alternatives to our meetings during this perilous time. With hopes that you are all doing well and might welcome a photographic challenge, we made a plan for a "virtual" Members' Night: Don Cannon has written an article here encouraging members to share images on Instagram, even creating a dedicated hashtag (#sierraphotostayshome). If enough people post even a few images by May 27 (our scheduled Members' Night), we'll have a body of work everyone can view and enjoy anytime at home. We'll get a sense of how we're coping with living so abnormally, and where we've found signs of natural beauty to lift our spirits. The posting can continue for as long as restrictions last. We hope many of you will take on this challenge!

As a technologically deficient older person, I never took up Instagram (or, "IG"). I knew images got posted from a smartphone, but I was devoted to my camera. Now the time has come for me to try it out, so I've picked up my iPhone 7 and photographed my favorite houseplant, which has become very precious these days. But then - how to post it?

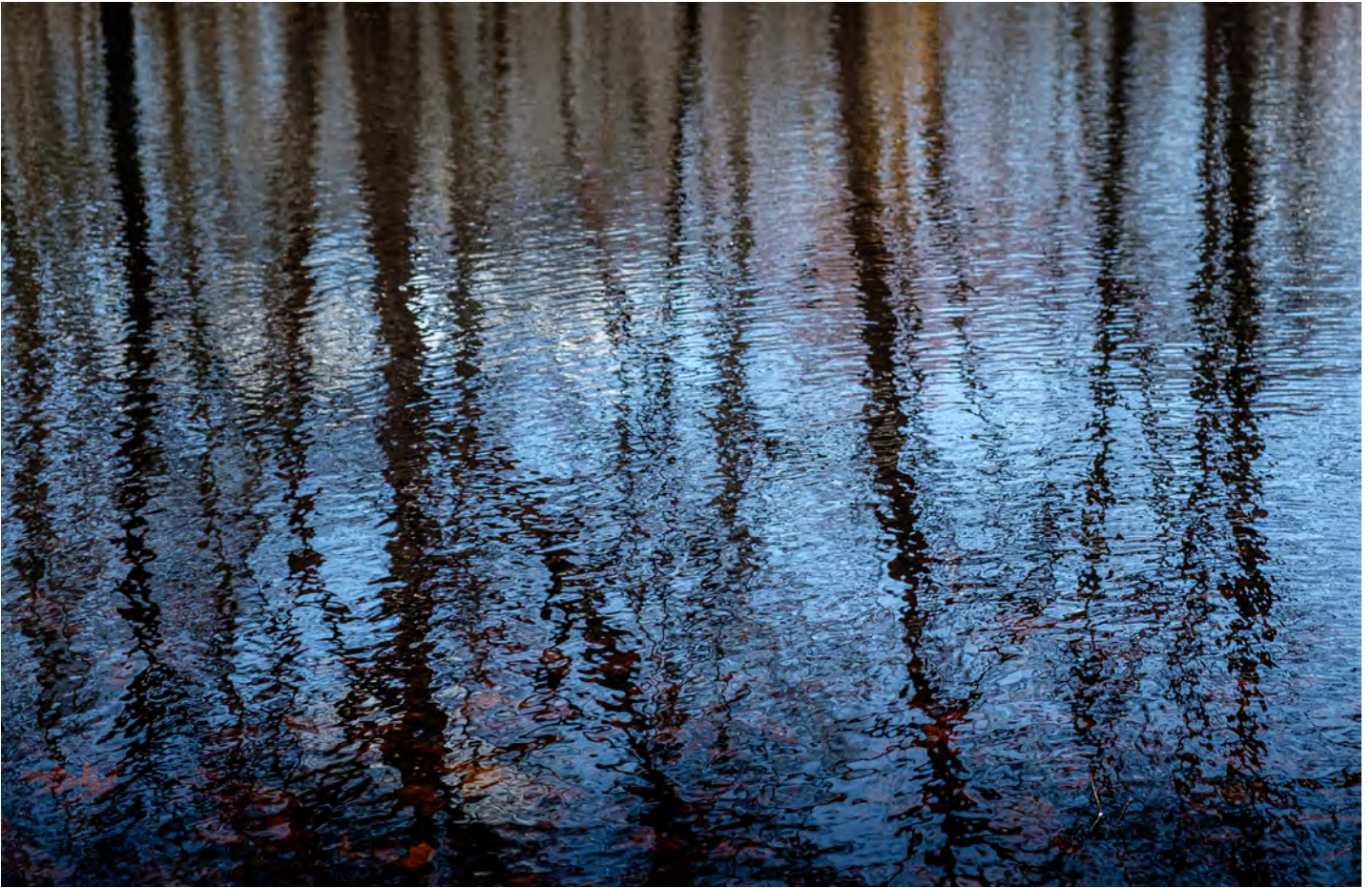
Supplementing his article, Don helped me put together these extra tips for newbies like me: After downloading the IG app and opening an account, all easily done, select a photo from your phone's "gallery" and tap the send (or share) icon. The IG icon appears (along with email, etc.). If it comes up twice, tap the one that says "Feed." A box will open for typing a caption and the hashtag (tap it to open keyboard). Then tap "OK" and "Share" and voila! You'll see other ways to post as well, as you explore IG.

You should also know how to open up our site for viewing on your smartphone: open the IG app; among the symbols on the bottom is a search symbol (magnifying glass). Tap that and type the hashtag in the search box that opens on top. To view on a computer, go to <https://www.instagram.com> login with your user name and password, and, in the search box at the top of the page, type the hashtag #sierraphotostayshome.

That's a lot of technology to take in, but even people like me are being pushed to become techies these days. We can grow from it: I already feel more comfortable with my iPhone and realize that IG provides benefits and connections I never thought of before.

We will continue to think of creative ways to help each other get through this difficult time. A beautiful new website is still being designed for us, and maybe, just maybe, our exhibit will actually come to pass!

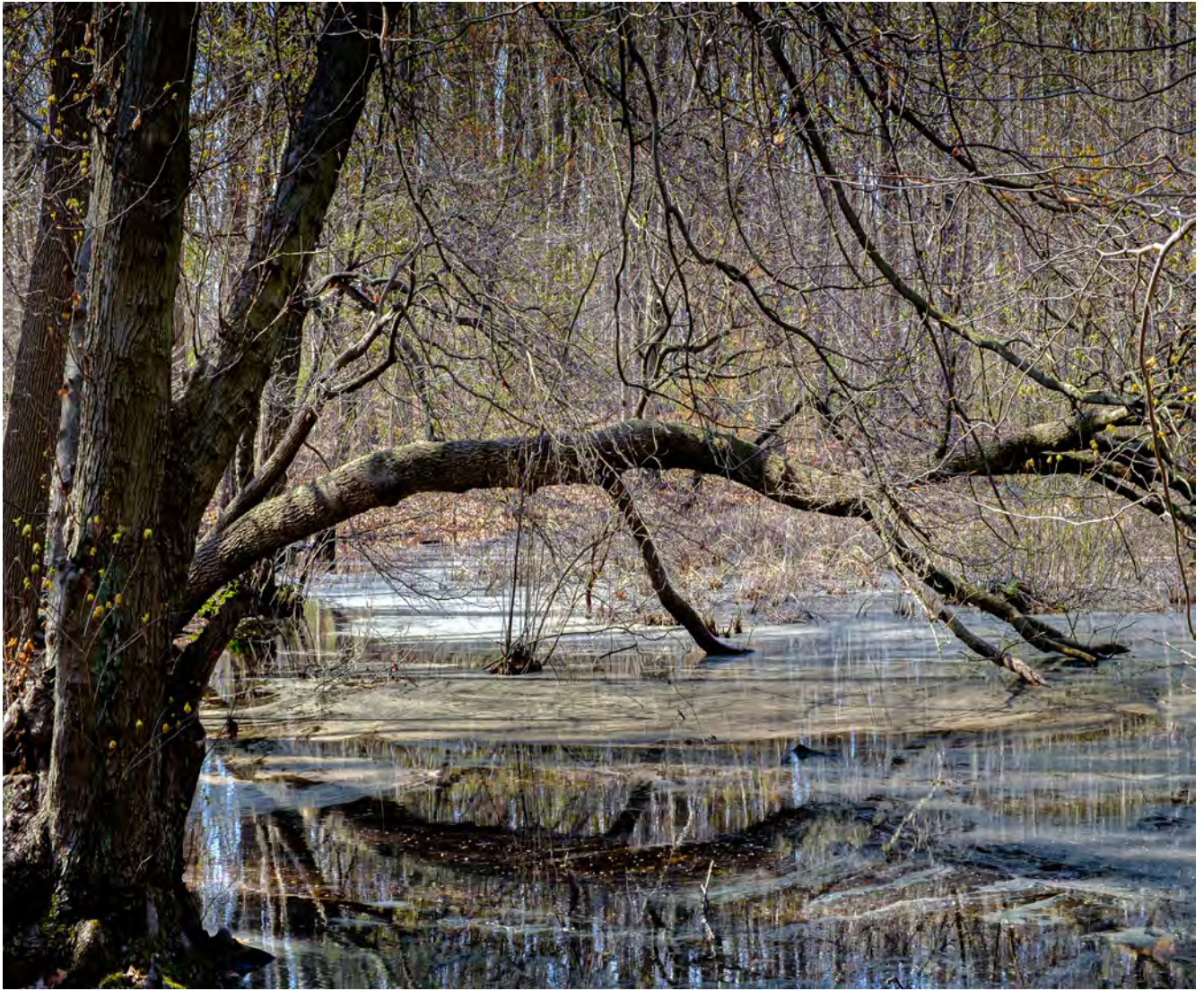
-Judy Rosenblatt



Alley Pond Park, Queens, NY © Claudia Schellenberg

I've been a member of the Sierra Club organization for many years, I don't recall exactly when I became active in the Photo Committee. I've been treasurer for about eight years.

I picked up a camera in earnest in the winter of 2006, with my cousin's encouragement. I seek out nature to achieve a degree of solitude and to recharge my batteries. Since the coronavirus has isolated us from each other, I take my camera out with me on walks around my neighborhood of East Elmhurst and into the parks to ease some of the loneliness. These photos are from one of my excursions to Alley Pond Park in Queens, New York.



Alley Pond Park, Queens, NY © Claudia Schellenberg

#sierraphotostayshome

Since we've had to cancel our popular Members' Night in May because of the COVID-19 pandemic, we're organizing a **Virtual Members' Night** through Instagram. We are all confined to our homes, except for the occasional trip to the store or a walk in the park. As photographers, we may feel the need to use our camera to express how this pandemic has affected us personally. The natural world can bring hope and solace in this frightening time - a flowering tree, a bird doing its thing, oblivious to the social upheaval he's living through. Even our pets, or our house plants, or a view from our window can offer a moment of hope and even joy. And, of course, moments of sadness and loss can be conveyed through photography.

Our Virtual Members' Night will work like this:

1. Post a photo or video on your Instagram account that relates to any aspect of your experience while confined under the stay-at-home rules. Be creative! For those without an Instagram account, see instructions below.
2. In the caption field, say whatever you'd like about the photo, and, also in the caption field, add the hashtag **#sierraphotostayshome**. You can also add the hashtag to an existing photo on your Instagram account. Add as many other hashtags as you want.
3. Check out other people's entries by searching the hashtag **#sierraphotostayshome**. Our Instagram account <https://www.instagram.com/sierraphotonyc> has more than 1,000 photos re-posted from the accounts of a wide range of friends and followers, and over 300 photographers are followers.

Instagram is a great way to share your work and to discover other photographers. Instagram users can add photos to their account primarily through their smart phones (either iPhone or Android). Any photo on your phone's photo gallery can be easily shared to Instagram. For beginners, it might be easiest to post photos taken with your phone.

There are more methods to post your photos. If you use a major photo sharing site (such as Flickr), you can share your photo by using the site's app on your phone. Another option is to use one of the Photo Transfer Apps which will allow you to move photos from your computer to your phone, where they can then be added to Instagram (the App must be downloaded to both your phone and to your computer). Photo Transfer Apps are available from Apple, Google, and other providers.

There are many Websites that will explain how to create an Instagram account. A visual guide can be found here: <https://www.wikihow.com/Set-Up-Instagram>.

Instagram's own instructions and FAQs are at: <https://help.instagram.com/155940534568753>.

For a helpful YouTube video, go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0Z4AEDyKGdl>

You can begin adding your photos anytime and continue as long as the stay-at-home orders stay in effect.

Happy shooting!

-Donald Cannon



Yaquina Lighthouse, Oregon Coast © Nancy Langer

My passion is documenting nature but I also photograph other cultures and cityscapes. I have amassed an extensive collection of images from my travels to all seven continents, and have had the honor of presenting my work to a variety of interested audiences from all walks of life.

As a member of SierraPhoto NYC, I served on the board for 4 years and continue in my 5th year as Speaker Coordinator. I love this challenging job and enjoy conversing with so many interesting people who are passionate about their craft.



Toucans in the Pantanal © Nancy Langer

Status of the *Nature as Sanctuary* Exhibit

As you know, our exhibit, *Nature as Sanctuary*, will not take place as originally scheduled this spring. The Church of the Heavenly Rest, our planned venue, has closed its facilities to the public for an unspecified period due to the ongoing pandemic of COVID-19.

However, the Program Administrator has told us that, if at all possible, the church intends to honor its commitment to SierraPhoto NYC and will make every effort to accommodate our exhibit when the church reopens. As you are aware, public health regulations surrounding the pandemic are being reformulated almost on a daily basis. When the picture becomes clearer, we will provide information about possible show dates. And, once we have a firm commitment, we can plan for an opening reception!

We remind those participants who have used *One Hour Framing* that the store is still closed, but the framed photos are safely stored there. If our exhibition does take place, we hope they will be able to deliver the photos to the exhibition site.

We thank everyone for their patience during this difficult time in the life of our nation. Stay healthy, follow the guidelines for protecting yourself, and let's all hope that our beautiful show will eventually be on the gallery walls for all to see!

Visiting with Anne Chamberlain



Roadside, Massachusetts, Winter © Anne Chamberlain

For the past several years I've had the pleasure of creating our newsletter, and along the way have learned many skills, from desktop publishing to preparing photographs to managing a workflow. I appreciate the work of the contributors as well as my editorial assistants, Don Cannon and Daphne Prior, and our mailing list manager, Helen Pine! I also get the opportunity to study and "live with" our contributors' works, up close, which is immensely enjoyable.

I've been photographing for (only) about ten years; my work centers on two themes: Brooklyn, New York, my home, and its many changes over the past decade; and nature images that may not be clear representations but instead are intended to inspire reflection.



South End, Brooklyn Bridge Park, NY © Anne Chamberlain



Member Meeting, January 2020

SierraPhoto NYC Board

Judy Rosenblatt, Co-Chair
Nina Edwards, Co-Chair
Donald Cannon
Charles Dexter
Charles Franz
Pat Garbarini
Richard Gold
Daphne Prior

Anne Chamberlain, Newsletter
Harvey Kopel, Mailings
Nancy Langer, Speakers
Helen Pine, Email Communications
Claudia Schellenberg, Treasurer

To report changes in email address:
sierraphotonyc@gmail.com

To send news of upcoming events,
exhibits, and publications:
annechamberlain@earthlink.net

Stay Tuned for Upcoming Schedule of Virtual Events and Fall 2020 Meetings

SierraPhoto NYC

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