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# THE CABLE RELEASE

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Organized for the mutual  
advancement and enjoyment of  
photography .

## PHOTORAMA 2019

I was on a Western Caribbean Cruise and, so, was unable to attend this year's Photorama.

This year's featured speaker, Bob Krist, is a seasoned speaker and, I'm told, did another great job. His program was offered in four parts, Photography, Using Flash and tow on video.

The new venue worked, with lots of available parking. The boxed lunch was reportedly very good. The only negative, I heard, was that the tables used during the meeting were round; folks felt rectangular tables might have been better.

# MACROMANIA

by Rick Berger

Member: HUB Camera Club

Livingston Camera Club

Are you a macromaniac? I am. A recent scientific study (conducted by me) concluded that approximately one fifth of the photographic population suffers from this affliction. The disease known as macromania causes one to engage in the strange behavior of shooting close-ups, I mean real close-ups, of many things found on the planet Earth. The question being asked by the photographic community is, "Is having this problem really a bad thing?" My answer is "Definitely not!"

When you look at photo magazines, exhibits, online photo sharing websites etc. you'll see gazillions of shots of landscapes, portraits, action shots etc. Once in a while you'll see some nice macro work, but not that often. Perhaps it's because people figure that they just don't have the right lens or camera to do the job. Maybe they simply haven't allowed themselves the time to explore the wonderful world of tiny things or the smallest areas of larger objects.

I find that doing macro photography provides a wonderful break from the world around us. When I zoom in on something, whether it's moving (a bee sucking pollen from a flower) or stationary (the wavy lines on a piece of bark) I'm no longer distracted by the world around me. I don't have to worry about some tourist walking in front of me to pose with his cousin Ira in front of the Pyramids or some referee who just invaded my space and screwed up my best shot ever of my grandson's soccer game.

There are several definitions out there describing macro photography. These include microphotography, photomicrography, and macro photography. However, what it really boils down to is the size of the subject in relation to the size it appears on your camera's sensor. A close-up is the range from 1/10<sup>th</sup> life-size to just below life-size. Macro is the range from life-size to 10x life-size. Micro is anything above 10x life-size. Most photographers simply lump them all into one definition and call it macro photography.

Exploring the fascinating world of small stuff doesn't really require a lot of fancy equipment. A really good 60mm macro lens or perhaps the longer 105mm (so you can stand back from the insect and not "bug" him (sorry) will be helpful, but I've also shot some nice close-up images with my 18-200mm zoom. Of course with that type of lens you really can't get in super close because it won't focus at that distance but with today's really good camera sensors, you may be able to shoot from a little farther back and then successfully enlarge the image on your computer, adding some detail using software specially designed for that purpose (Lightroom's Detail Slider, Topaz's Detail program.)

As most of us "senior photographers" know, as we age our vision worsens. With that comes the inability to discern extreme details in what we're looking at. Focusing in on a small area or a small subject allows us to see a myriad of details, textures, and colors which we might not normally see when we simply look at an object. In those small details we can discover patterns, shapes and abstract forms which often provide us with a wonderful photographic image. Some of these images look like abstract art while others mirror the look of full sized objects like a rushing river or a mountain range. I've zoomed in on some rocks and discovered areas which, when I've looked at them on my computer, resemble the Grand Canyon.

If you haven't explored the wonderful world of macro photography, I suggest that you give it a try. It'll expand your vision of photography as a whole as well as help to enlarge your vision of the world around you.

**WHAT'S HAPPENIN' AT NJFCC MEMBER CLUBS in  
May 2019?**

<b>Club</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Judge or Speaker</b>
Camera Naturalist	Somerset Env. Ctr. Shabos, Chester, NJ Somerset Env. Ctr.	5/9 5/11 5/23	Competition: Botany and Zoology Env. Ctr. Program Captured by Camera Competition: Creative Digital and Macro	Nick Palmieri  Bob Thomas
Cranbury "Digital"	Cranbury Methodist Church	5/8 5/22	Program: Light Painting Competition: The Color Red	Loren Fisher
Cranford/Millburn	Cranford Comm. Ctr. Millburn: Bauer Ctr.	5/6 5/20	Workshop: TBA Year End Competition	V. Kempf, P. Echo
Essex Photo	Caldwell United Methodist Church	5/2 5/16	Ridgewood International Show Club Competition: Best of Year	PM Kane, B. Szabo
4 Seasons@Manalapan	FSM Clubhouse	5/13	Program: Silhouettes	Sal Tozzi
Gateway	Sacred Heart School Staten Island, NY	5/5 5/12	Final Competition Award Dinner—Location TBD	T Calamia, J Sandstedt
Hillcrest	Pilgrim Presby. Ch. Phillipsburg11/27	5/13 5/27	Competition No Meeting	Roz Bachman
HUB	Mountain Lakes Library	5/20	Competition: Still Life P/Mtg. Creating Great Prints	Clarke Warren G Palmiotto, H Crosthwaite
Hunterdon	Hunterdon Co. Ed. Services Comm.	5/7	Club Meeting: Member Critique	
Livingston	Livingston Comm. Senior Center	5/13	Social Evening	Randy Samuels
Metedeconk Lakes	Jackson.	TBA	TBA	
Monmouth	Colt's Neck Reformed Church	5/16 5/23	Program: Redefining Your Medium Merit Judging	Liam Alexander TBD
Monroe	Monroe Township Comm. Center	5/1 5/15	Competition: B&W or a Touch of Color Program: Architectural Photography	Rich Despina
Morris Photocolor	Morristown Town Hall, Room 304 Senior Ctr. Room	5/1 5/15	Ridgewood International Show Competition	To be Judged By Out-of-State Photography Club
Ocean County	Eagle Ridge CC Lakewood	5/6	End of Year Competition	John Sandstedt

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Photographers of Sussex Co.	Admin. Bldg., Sussex County Fairgrounds, Augusta.	5/20	Program: Flowering Trees	
Photographic Society of Vineland	Newfield Senior CTR Newfield	TBA	TBA	
Pocono	NCC Monroe Tannersville	5/21	Program: Creative Bird Photography	Ray Hennessey
Princeton	D&R Greenway Land Trust Princeton	TBA	TBA	
Raritan Photographic Society	American Legion Hall - Milltown	5/9 5/23	Critique: Macro Competition: Musical Instruments	
Ridgewood	Franklin Lakes Meth. Church	5/1 5/8 5/15 5/22	Executive Committee Annual Competition Program B: RCC Social Media Year End Awards Dinner	R. Matthews, T Teixeira
River Pointe	RP Clubhouse Manchester	TBA	TBA	
Rockland	Clarkstown Comm. Ctr New City, NY	5/9 5/16	Workshop: TBA End of Year Evaluations	S Candelaria, R Kent
Somerset County	Manville Library	5/11 5/25	Competition: Astro Photography, Open Presentation: Infrared Photography	Jason Basem Jacki Dickert
Sparta	Sparta Amb. Squad	5/8 5/22	Program: Long Exposure/Night Photography Competition: Image of the Year	V Kolstad, B O'Neill
Staten Island	Snug Harbor Culture Ctr.	5/9 5/16	Image Critique End of Year Competition	Al Brown
Stone Bridge	SB Clubhouse Monroe	TBA	TBA	
Teaneck	Rodda Rec Ctr Teaneck	5/7 5/14 5/21 5/28	Competition: Digital Pictorial Workshop: Photoediting Hands On Program: Program: Seeking Out the Small Hunt's Sales Program: Venice	Brien Szabo Gary Farber Tom Babich
Tri - County	Nutley Library	TBA	TBA	
Vailsburg	Bailey Civic Ctr.	TBA	TBA	