



May, 2022 PPAM Newsletter



On the Cover:  
“Washington Monument with Cherry Blossoms”  
by Stephen Sedman, M.Photog.Cr.

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A message from the editor .....

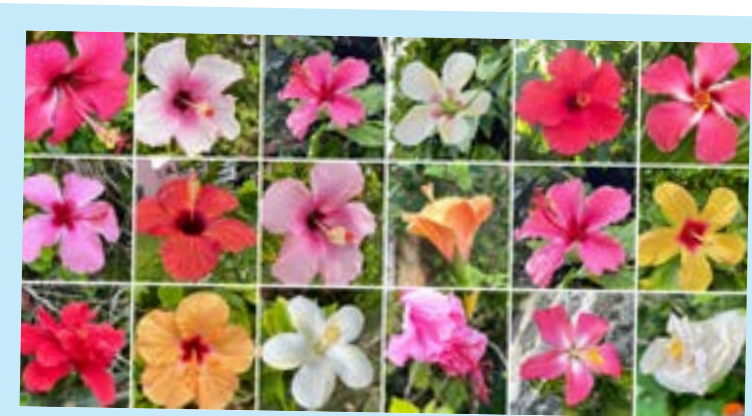
About 2 weeks after EVOLVE I left for Bermuda to visit my fiancée, Dave, for 7 weeks (he is currently working there on a contract). Now before you get too ‘jellie’, Bermuda is a sub-tropical country and while the weather is way better here than in MA, I’ve only got 1 week left here (as I’m writing this) and I still haven’t gone swimming at the beach, or even worn my swimsuit for that matter. It’s just starting to hit 70 degrees.

I do go out every morning, however, for about a 4.5 mile walk, which takes me about 90 minutes because of all the damn hills. During that time, I listen to podcasts, and I stop and take photos of flowers with my iPhone (another reason for the slow pace).

I have seen and photographed pretty much every color of Hibiscus flower on this island – they are everywhere. And who knew there were so many colors? And every day there’s more, and everyday I feel like I’m seeing a new color or variation. And I see them tightly wound, ready to unfurl; I see them backlit, or like today they were covered in tiny raindrops. And I just have to stop to take a photo.

I’ve been to at least a dozen or so PPAM conventions, probably more, and I’ve seen them evolve (no pun intended – ha!). This year I felt like things really ‘clicked’ – despite the wintry weather. I observed new members that attended and got involved, in both image competition and volunteering at the convention. And long-time members engaged and just having a great time. The parties were so fun; innovative new ideas (Welcome Party Bingo and the Image Comp Banners were great new additions – credit Nancy Green for those!). And when one of the speakers couldn’t make it – 3 PPAM members stepped up - Karen McCall and Paula Swift who gave a program on little notice, and Ann Lyle who switched to a day earlier - and a longer program.

I hope all who attended were able to soak it all in and enjoy our Massachusetts network that we call ‘PPAM’ – there’s so many different photographers – like hibiscus - who have so many different talents in our association, so make sure you take advantage of all there is to offer. A good start is attending a Photopalooza this summer, which are taught by PPAM members (including ‘moi’). Take a day from your busy summer schedule and attend an all-day program with small, intimate groups where you’ll learn something valuable and get to know other PPAM members even better.



Also, get out and enjoy the Spring...take notice of what you may be passing by everyday – take lots of photos, even if it’s just with your cell phone. We’re not making competition images here (well maybe?!). Post yours in the PPAM Facebook Group (another members-only benefit!) See you there!

*Cassandra*



# PPAM President's Message

by Paula Swift,  
M.Photog.Cr., CPP

Since not everyone could be at the EVOLVE 2022 Convention Awards Banquet, I would like to share my president's message with you here.

What an amazing Evolve Convention weekend we had! It felt so good to be back in person and be inspired by so many of you who share the same passion in photography. It was an honor to have the Professional Photographers of America President Mary Fisk Taylor and American Society of Photographers President Ella Carlson there with us that weekend.

A huge thank you to Nancy Green and Susan Asaro for the "wicked awesome" weekend! It was no easy feat to put on as there are so many details that go into putting on a convention like ours. Image Competition Co-Chairs Cassandra Sullivan and Steve Sedman deserve a huge thank you too, as they did an amazing job with our virtual image competition. They went above and beyond in making sure everything went smoothly before and after competition. Thank you to the judges who took time out of their busy schedules for the talent and expertise in judging. Also, in sharing constructive feedback during the critique party to help us make our images better. And thank you to all the speakers who shared their knowledge, helping this community to grow in their business and in life. Every association needs a little extra help, and we are always grateful to the sponsors who continue to support PPAM every year, so we say thank you to them too!

Finally, thank you to not only the executive board but to all the board members, chairpeople and members who volunteer throughout the year but especially during convention weekend. With your expertise and team spirit you got it all done. As they say it takes a village, and we have an amazing one.

This past year PPAM Focused on bringing seminars back in person and gave our community some normalcy that we all craved



and needed. Being part of this talented giving group of friends who are like family, to grow, share knowledge and to cheer one another on, is what kept me energized.

But enough about this association for a few minutes. Let me tell you a little story.

As most of you know I'm a hockey mom. My son Logan is a defenseman for his Bantam team, he's the youngest of my 3 boys who all played hockey. His team was winning a ton of games because they were in a lower division at the start of the hockey season. The league he plays in always looks to make games competitive and move teams up accordingly, in order that there will be a competitive balance. They were moved up and suddenly they lost a few games, so the team's morale was pretty low. This wasn't a good thing as they were about to play for a chance to enter the state tournament. My husband, Chris, is the head coach, and he was trying to figure out how we could boost their confidence. So, he pulled out an old coaching trick of his.

At the next practice he brought a chain and hung it up in the locker room. Of course, the kids were curious and had questions. He told the team how the chain reminds him of a hockey team. He said if you think about it, as strong as a chain is - it's only as strong as its weakest link.

He asked them what would happen if one of those links' breaks? They told him that the strength of the chain would be weakened. He told them that a hockey team is very much like the chain. Each individual player is like a link on the chain. Chris told them that it doesn't mean that they were only as good as their worst player. It means they are only as good as the effort given by each member of the team.

He said some of you are faster skaters. Some are better shooters, and some are more physical. He said whatever that skill is that you bring to the team is valuable. He told them that when everyone on the team brings their best effort and attitude, they are strong. When they don't, they are weak. The kids ended up winning their next game, moved up to the A level and competed for a state championship the weekend after our convention. The chain travels to every game and is awarded after each game to the player that did something special to help the team.

How does this relate to PPAM, you ask? Well, what makes our PPAM family special is that everyone has something special to offer that can help. It does not matter if you're in a leadership position or a new member... Every member is valuable!

Some of you are studio photographers. some are natural light photographers. some do weddings and events while some of you are great with social media. There are those of you that are great at public speaking. great at sales and there are some of you that can do it all.

Perhaps you are still trying to figure out who you are and what you want to be, you are in the right place. We are here for you. All of this is what makes PPAM so special. Every member brings something unique to offer. Like the chain, it is only as strong as its weakest link. If we didn't have all these great talents and eagerness to volunteer, we would be weak. I can tell you this, PPAM is stronger than ever. We have so much to offer, from the seasoned pro to the photographer just starting out.

I know over the years PPAM has been an important aspect for me personally as I transitioned from photojournalism to becoming a portrait photographer. This family of photographers has helped me grow my photography skills and business as well as conquer my biggest fear ever... speaking in public. By being part of this association, my confidence has grown and here I am now speaking in front of you as your President.

Our PPAM chain starts with the giving executive board. Many who are running fulltime photography businesses, have families and may even had another career on top of it. The resilience of the whole board adds more links to our chain which brings us to all our members and vendors who step up to volunteer during convention, our seminars and help support PPAM financially. If it weren't for each of you, PPAM would not be where it is today. All of you complete our chain and we are growing stronger each day.

I want to leave you with some powerful words from Pulitzer Prize winning photographer Eddie Adams, whom I had the exciting opportunity to meet in 1997 at his Barnstorm Workshop in upstate New York for photojournalists. "The most powerful weapon in the world has been and can be a photograph. Cameras in the hands of photographers with hearts can capture; love, hope and passion. It can change lives and make the world a better place. And it only takes 1/500th of a second. Life goes on – we photograph it. But it's much better with love."

We have a great line up of education and speakers coming up this year for PPAM. On June 6th at the Hampton Inn in Natick we are bringing in the talented and inspirational Michael Taylor, M.Photog., Cr., Hon.M.Photog., API, F-ASP and Monica Sigmon, M.Photog., Cr. who will be presenting their Luxury by Necessity program. July and August we will be having our very popular Photopalooza's which are all day workshops hosted by our talented and giving PPAM members. These sell out quickly as they have small, limited space. Then on September 19th, David Beckham will be presenting his Fashion Posing and Lighting for Seniors. Sorry folks, not the soccer star but the creative high school senior photographer from Ohio. Keep checking the events page on [www.ppam.com](http://www.ppam.com) as we add events.

Lastly, on behalf of the PPAM board, I want to thank Luciana Calvin, Cr. CPP who has been our awesome VP of Membership for the past 4 years. Please help me welcome Cindy Ko to the executive board as our new VP of Membership whose term starts on May 1st.

Happy Spring everyone and enjoy getting back outside photographing and appreciating the warmer weather.

*Paula*

Paula Swift,  
M.Photog, Cr, CPP  
President of PPAM 2021 -  
2023

Luxury by Necessity  
with Michael Taylor,  
M.Photog.Cr.Hon.M.Photog., API, F-ASP  
and Monica Sigmon, M.Photog.Cr.

Monday, June 6, 2022

Hampton Inn & Conference Center

319 Speen Street, Natick MA

Registration starts at 9 AMd

Time: 10:00 am - 4:30 pm



Discover how to elevate your art, brand, and studio to work with discerning clients in a boutique environment in this indispensable program. Together, Monica and Michael will explain their methods for branding, client engagement and high-end market success while giving the audience invaluable building blocks to apply to their own business.

If you got in this business to create fine art wall portraits that will be a meaningful legacy passed down through the generations, you do not want to miss this program. Join Monica and Michael to learn the secrets of their unprecedented studio success. It's sure to not only get you back to pursuing what you love to do, but also ultimately feeling more creatively fulfilled.

Join in to learn how you too, can build and brand your studio into a luxury service that clients clamor for both Monica and Michael are multi-award-winning titans of the photographic industry, best known for their fresh, innovative signature styles that represent their clients with emotion and honesty. They joined their amazing talents fifteen years ago and own the premier photography studio in the Williamsburg/Tidewater area.

Together they teach fun and engaging programs to help photographers elevate their art, brand, and studio to work with discerning clients in a boutique environment. In their programs they hold nothing back and gladly share each of their unique perspectives and insights to the jovial enjoyment of their captivated audiences.





PPAM Evolve 2022

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday, June 6, 2022

## **Luxury By Necessity with Monica Sigmon & Michael Taylor**

Hampton Inn & Conference Center  
319 Speen Street, Natick MA  
Registration starts at 9 AM  
Time: 10:00 am - 4:30 pm

## PPA Spring Workshops taught by PPAM Members

[Click here for Details & Registration](#)

Sunday, May 15, 2022

## **How to See Light & Master It**

Stephen Sedman  
1:30 pm - 9 pm  
Boston, MA

Tuesday, May 17, 2022

## **Dynamic Lighting & Posing for Boudoir Photography**

Shawn Black  
10am-5pm  
Peabody, MA

Monday, May 23, 2022

## **Adventures Underwater**

Melvin E. Guante and Wayne S. Tarr  
9am-4:30pm  
Framingham, MA

## IPC Judging

IPC Early Registration: [July 5–August 11 at 5pm ET](#)

IPC Late Registration: [August 11–August 30 at 5pm ET](#)

IPC Judging Dates: [September 11–15, 2022](#)

## PPAM Photopaloozas – Details and Registration on [PPAM.com > Events](#)

Sunday, July 10, 2022

## **Kris Ventresco - Creative Lighting Techniques & Production for Wedding Photographers** - Easton, MA

Monday, July 25, 2022

## **Mike Stone - Making a Comeback in 2022-Marketing & Sales for Growth With or Without a Studio** - Worcester

Monday, August 1, 2022

## **Ann Dreiker - Bar/Bat Mitzvah Photography & all things in between** - Wellesley

Wednesday, August 3, 2022

## **Cassandra Sullivan – Lightroom to IPS** - Plymouth, MA

Monday, August 8, 2022

## **Ann Lyle - Newborn and Baby Photography Basics** - Framingham, MA

Sunday, August 14, 2022

## **Sephania Olsen - The Business of Beauty & Boudoir** - Rockland, MA

Monday, September 19, 2022

## **Fashion Posing and Lighting for Seniors with David Beckham**

Hampton Inn  
319 Speen Street, Natick MA  
Registration starts at 9 AM  
Time: 10:00 am - 4:30 pm  
**Hampton Inn & Conference Center**  
**319 Speen Street, Natick MA**

## Member Spotlight – Steve Sedman

Stephen Sedman is a Master Photographer and Craftsman; photographs weddings, mitzvahs, family portraits and headshots; paints; has a studio in Hingham and works as the head of IT at Emerson College. And he still makes time to volunteer for PPAM.

Steve has served as President of PPAM, as well as VP of Tech, VP of Programs and Image Competition committee Chair or Co-Chair. And he was the 2020 recipient of the PPA National Award. “I’ve been Image Comp chair more times than I can count. Nancy Green volunteered me for that role probably about 15 to 20 years ago, and it kind of stuck.” It was, and still is, one of his favorite PPAM volunteer roles. “You have to immerse yourself in that experience and really dedicate yourself to it. While you’re there you learn so much looking at all the images, because you’re more critically looking at them and listening to the judges and watching everything that’s going on at a higher level of awareness than you do just as a spectator. It’s definitely helped raise the level of my craft and my level of knowledge.”

When he was VP of Programs, Steve started the PhotoPaloozas, which are taught by PPAM members as a way to get to know PPAM talent, and raise money for PPAM in order to bring in bigger name speakers for PPAM. And when he was President, Steve rebranded the PPAM convention as “EVOLVE”. “The idea was to rebrand as something that could be a destination for photographers around New England”, said Steve. “Branding it EVOLVE and marketing it heavier as an Event, allowed us to bring in a few more

people.” One of his favorite memories as President was picking the “Steampunk” theme for the party that year. “It was really fun - a good one that year.”

This May, Steve is also teaching a PPA Workshop. Teaching a PPA workshop is an opportunity to earn a merit towards your PPA Craftsman degree, but Steve already has his. So what’s his motivation? Steve says he’s been seeing some “bad Facebook advertising” for Photography with “a lot of bad lighting. I really feel a need to raise the level of those people that haven’t really perfected their craft yet and I want to help. There’s no reason not to have knowledge. Knowledge



is either an investment in time or money or both. I’ve learned from so many great people over the years I really enjoy giving back.” He’s really excited about this class that he’s teaching in Boston. “It goes from 1:30 PM to 9:00 PM. The reason for the timing is I wanted to be able to start at the worst possible time of day to show you how to see good lighting opportunities at that time of day, and then work through the best time of the day, and over into the night time to show how to use additional light modifiers and flash to really make the nighttime portrait sing, too.”

Steve has taken many classes and workshops over the years himself. Steve Bedell’s Natural Lighting Class was a big influence on him and what he’s teaching in his PPA workshop. “After taking his class it just really clicked as to what I was not understanding about natural light photography. It’s not about ‘that looks good here I’m going to take a picture’. Unfortunately, when you’re starting out you may not know how to make good light, but you might intuitively see something. It’s how to break it down for what lighting pattern you’re trying to achieve, and what are the tools that I can use in the environment to achieve that.”

“Darton Drake, rest in peace, was a really great studio photographer class that I took down in NEIPP and that really changed my studio portrait style quite a bit. I have a lot of influences from him on that side.”

Although Steve’s father was a Photographer who owned a camera store and photographed for Life Magazine and Columbia pictures doing stills, Steve’s original career path was different, as he didn’t really want to go in that direction. He attended the Swain School of Design (which is now part of UMass Dartmouth) and earned a Bachelor’s Degree in Sculpting. “Although I did sell several sculptures and paintings in a gallery, the demand for good photography is a greater demand in the public eye than for sculpture or painting.”

He did end up doing Wedding Photography and just fell in love with it, even though he didn’t quite know what he was doing. He understood the technical aspects but realized he had much to learn so he found the appropriate people to learn from – while working at LustreColor (a photo lab) – a job he got when

he was driving by on his way to his Valet job, and decided to go in and talk to the owner. He met a lot of photographers during his 19 years working there, many of whom also helped his craft and career, and he also quickly went up through the ranks at LustreColor when they realized how Steve’s skill sets could help grow the business. “Being exposed to many many different studios that way was a great education, because everybody has something they do great and you can pick up little tips from people over the years.”

Steve seems to have both a creative side (sculpting, photography, and painting)





and a tech side (being head of IT at Emerson and the one everyone calls at PPAM when there's a technical issue). "I really enjoy both sides of the equation whether it's a technical problem and coming up with a creative solution for it, or if it's a creative problem with a good solid technical background so that it functions properly. There are some people that can go so far into their own creativity that the technical aspect doesn't mean anything anymore because it just blows you away with how original and unusual it is. I'm not that person; I'm not that creative; but I like to be pretty creative with event photography and have fun with it too."

Steve's favorite subject to photograph is his family. "There's a million pictures of Sarah, Hannah, Arielle and Kelly on the Internet and everywhere, photographed while teaching at a seminar when they came along as models, or if it's just on vacation and doing that sort of stuff." Landscapes is #2 – he especially enjoys textures. "It can be just about the different textures, which I think harkens back to my earlier sculptural days. A sculpture is really just about how light affects the three-dimensional objects. And of course texture is going to be

the biggest variation there with the way light interacts with surfaces, and I enjoy that." His photography adventures can be legendary. "I have been known to travel specifically to take a picture that I have in my mind - like there was one disastrous trip to a frozen waterfall in New Hampshire. When I decided to go I had a particular photograph in my mind, but my camera went for a little swim at that time too." If you haven't heard the story, ask Steve about that next time you see him.

Looking back on his career, Steve says, "I'm a pretty good businessman as evidenced by having a profitable studio for what has it been - 30 years now. Photography has been fantastic for me as a business. The creative side I find more rewarding, personally, but I couldn't do that without the business side because the business side pays my bills, allows my family to live in the lifestyle that we all want to live in, and allows me to play with the more creative side of photography."

He sees himself slowing down in 10 years, as the business side won't be as important since his 3 daughters are all in



college now and just about out of the house. He hopes to have a more low-volume, higher end price range business by still doing portrait photography and offering heirloom painted family portraits (using real oil paint) – going back to his art background. He says he hasn't done a lot of painting recently, but "I did do a self portrait in the style of VanGogh and that was kind of fun last year. About 10 years ago I did a series of Boston paintings that sold really well out of a gallery in town, and that was rewarding."

Some of his bucket list items: Go to Iceland with his wife Kelly, and take a motorcycle trip down to the Florida Keys sometime within the next year. "That's been on my list for a while and I have not accomplished it. For me riding a motorcycle is part of being in the environment so going to an environment like the Florida Keys - you're pretty much in the ocean. It's as close as you're gonna be on a boat without getting seasick." In the meantime, he's showing no signs of slowing down. He's got so much going on, yet he still finds time for everything that's important to him. "The more free time that I have, the less I'll get done, not the more I'll get done. I always seem to find time for what I need and want to do. I photograph a bar



mitzvah on Saturday, Sunday I change the oil, edit files and go out to dinner with my wife. So it's a good mix of everything."



## Ken Wilson presented Lifetime Membership by PPAM

Every two years, the PPAM Executive Board, can elect a PPAM member into Lifetime Membership, who in the opinion of the Board has rendered outstanding services to photography or to the association.

In 2022, the board elected longtime PPAM Member Ken Wilson. If you've been in PPAM awhile, you know how much he has supported us from the days with his lab LustreColor, and most recently ACI. LustreColor and ACI, through Ken, have sponsored (donated \$\$) PPAM events and parties – they sponsored the 80's party this year, Image Critique parties and Awards banquets in past years, too. He was at the ACI vendor table during Evolve – hopefully you got a chance to meet him if you're new. LustreColor and ACI have also sponsored the Highest Scoring Image award in Image Competition. Ken is retiring this year. But we all hope he still hangs out with us! He wrote a lovely letter to Nancy Green and PPAM Members, and with his permission we're sharing it here in the newsletter:

Hi Nancy,

Thank you for sending me the PPAM Lifetime Membership info, I most certainly will show it to Nancy and Alex. It's also great to know that the award was unanimously approved by the Massachusetts board! Usually there's always that Russian Judge that won't go along with anything, so having it be unanimous is an honor as well!

Also, I wanted to apologize if I seemed a little "off" during the convention. I had no idea how much I was going to be affected on knowing the PPAM convention was going to be my last show as a "Lab Person." Yes, I know that my sound a little weird to you, but it's been a long (great) ride for me at Massachusetts and the memories - all 50 years - kept on resurfacing at the show.

I'm not sure I've mention this to you before (hard to believe I haven't), but 50 years ago the Massachusetts convention changed my life. Back in 1972 when I had started working/training with Allen Swimmer (John and Maddie Hobbs as well) to become a wedding photographer they invited me to travel up to Auburn, MA to attend their convention. At that time, I was 20 years old and unsure of my career path, so I was going through a difficult time period. The convention had a commercial program on shooting Catalog Photography. The program was presented by the head of a studio (the name escapes me) that photographed for many of the major catalog companies including Sears and Roebuck. During his presentation he mentioned that they had an apprentice program at the studio and was looking for individuals to train as commercial photographers. I was so impressed with his program and the entire studio operation I decided at once to apply to their program and move to Chicago!

The program didn't start until the fall, so I had to find a job to carry through the summer. Allen, once again, came to the rescue and told me Teck Color Lab was looking for someone to do pick-up and delivery for them. I found that I enjoyed working at the lab (not doing pickup and delivery so much) and

decided to stay at Teck Color and you know rest of the story.

So that little bit of history and all the memories of all the individuals I've met and known over the years we are swimming around in my head when the awards part of the convention started up. When Paula started speaking about what turned out to be - me! During Paula's presentation she mention that the person she was speaking about had been presented the National Award in 1997. Of course, I knew immediately who that was because I'm pretty sure it's the only PPAM convention I ever missed! I also did some quick math in my head and realized 1997 was exactly 25 years ago, exactly the same number of years that had elapsed from my first PPAM convention and receiving the National Award. (How weird was that!) So, with all those thoughts staggering around in my head I went up to receive my lifetime membership smiled (somewhat) for the cameras and promptly sat down wondering what just happened! While I was sitting there accepting everyone's congratulations a thought popped into my head.....Wow I guess this is how a career ends, and it's been one hell of a career!!

I've always felt attending the PPAM Convention in 1972 was a life altering event because it set into motion a completely different path for me, one I had no way of knowing or understanding until years later. I've had the fortune of meeting so many wonderful, talented, passionate photographers over the years and had the privilege of calling them friends. Your friend, Ken



# A huge “THANK YOU” to more of our PPAM sponsors



## Dan Bitar receives PPA National Award

“Volunteers truly are the lifeblood of PPA and its affiliates. Every association has those extraordinary volunteers whose efforts on behalf of the affiliate and its members deserve recognition,” is how PPA President, Mary Fisk-Taylor, began the presentation of the PPAM National Award during the PPAM annual meeting at the Evolve

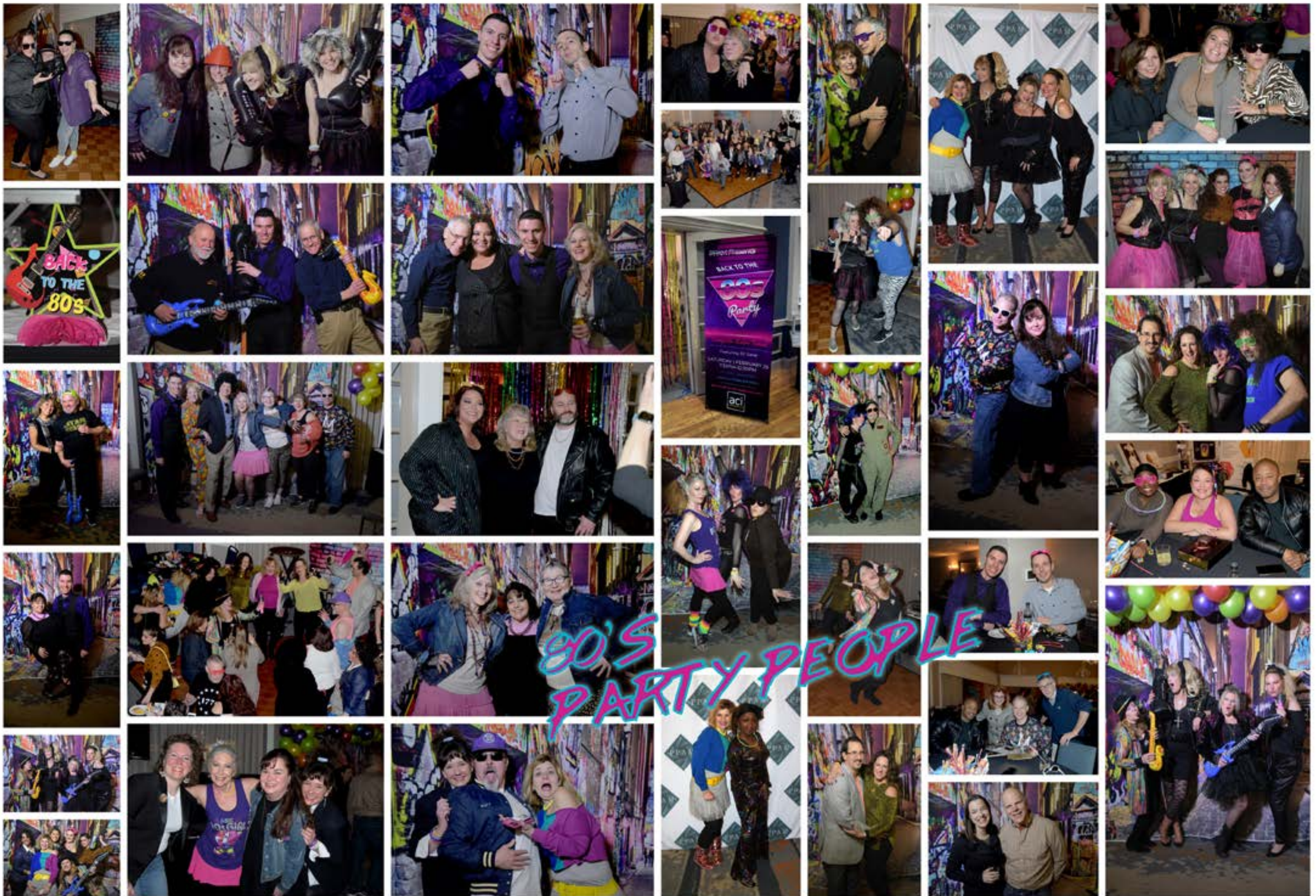


Convention. “The simple inscription on this plaque reads “for service to professional photography” – but we know that this award means far more than that.”

Stephen Sedman, the 2020 National Award recipient, introduced longtime PPAM Member Dan Bitar as the 2022 Recipient. Dan served on the PPAM board as both a member at large, and as the Parliamentarian where he was instrumental in helping update the PPAM By-Laws and served on the committee that implemented Lifetime Membership Award modifications.

The recipients of the award are voted on by past National Award Winners, and the selected recipient doesn't know until the actual presentation. It's quite a project and team effort to produce the presentation and keep it a secret and make sure the recipient will actually be at the presentation! Dan was truly surprised and humbled. George Lucozzi filmed the presentation, and you can watch it on YouTube: (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e3blfQGl8rA>)

“If someone came to me and said they'd give me anything I want right now” said Dan, “I would like to have my 2 Nikon F2 film cameras, my RB67, and then I'd like to have my whole darkroom; then I'd go in there and never come out”.





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# PPAM Awards

Kris Ventresco presented with President's Award by PPAM President Paula Swift



## PPAM 2022 IMAGE COMPETITION AWARDS

The PPAM Image Competition was held virtually on February 16, 2022. The jurors were: Bob Coates, Chris Richman, Jessica Vogel, Kristy Steeves, Cindy Dover, and Jury Chair Ed Pedi. Forty PPAM members and 9 Non-members entered. 44% of the images entered scored 80 or above! Image Competition Co-Chairs Stephen Sedman and Cassandra Sullivan were honored to present the following awards at the PPAM Awards party during Evolve:

**Photographic Excellence Award:** Ann Lyle

**Silver Evolve Award:** Nancy Green

**Bronze Evolve Award:** Christine O'Neill

**Highest Scoring Image, sponsored by ACI:** Karen McCall, "Jungle Love"

**ASP State Elite Award:** Karen McCall, "Jungle Love"

**Highest Scoring First Time Entrant:** Nancy Rich, "Do You See Me?"

**Highest Scoring CPP:** Karen McCall, "Jungle Love"

**Highest Scoring Animal Image:** Karen McCall, "Jungle Love"

**Highest Scoring Non-Member:** Judy Reinford, "Platinum Plumage"

### Court of Honors:

**Portrait:** Ann Lyle, "The Circle of Life"

**Wedding:** Trish Gilmore, "Window of the Soul"

**Album:** Cassandra Sullivan, "Liv 2022"

**Artist:** Elizabeth Luce, "Iconic Crane"

**Illustrative:** Karen McCall, "Jungle Love"



### **Specialty Awards:**

**Portrait 1 or 2 Adults:** Ann Lyle, "Waiting on My Sunshine"

**Family Portrait:** Nancy Green, "Summer Vacation Portrait"

**Newborn Portrait:** Ann Lyle, "Cupid's Debut"

**Children's Portrait:** Ann Lyle, "The Dreamer"

**High School Senior Portrait:** Christine Chambers, "A Flower Turns Towards the Light"

**Boudoir, Fashion, Glamour:** Alice Pepplow, "The Backless Dress"

**Pet Portrait:** Cathleen Broderick, "Is My Crown Straight?"

**Landscape/Cityscape:** Nancy Green, "Travel At Your Own Risk"

**Nature:** Cassandra Sullivan, "Fan Light"

**Reportage:** Nancy Rich, "Do You See Me?"

**Abstract:** Nancy Rich, "Crustacean Without a Backbone"

**Wedding Documentary:** Trish Gilmore, "Dude, You're Late!"

**Wedding Posed:** Trish Gilmore, "Window Dressing"

**Artist:** Christine O'Neill, "A Time to Reflect"

## Congratulations to all who entered!



### **PPAM welcomes the following new members!**

William Asadoorian, Waltham

Laurie Brooks, Westwood

Samantha Brooks, Westwood

Patrick Brosnan, Tewksbury

Janet Carmichael Ciummei, Acton

Christine Chambers, Millis

Sarah Dennehy, South Easton

Katherine Dickson, Madison CT

Julieann Freitas, Salem

Tony Irving, Boston

Megan LaBella Martin, Framingham

TJ Lavoie, Meriden CT

Rich Logan, S Deerfield

Sarah Musumeci, North Andover

Leah Ramuglia, Hanover

David Roth, Ashland

Jonathan Route, Leominster

Roland Silva, Salem

Kirsten Spencer, Orange

Lauren Thomas, Springfield

Thomas Winter, Taunton



### **2022 PPA Degree Recipients**

These PPAM members received degrees in 2022 at Imaging USA!

Luciana Calvin – Photographic Craftsman

Trish Gilmore – Master of Wedding Photography

Elizabeth Luce – Master of Photography

Christine O'Neill – Master Artist

Abby Sullivan – Photographic Craftsman

Kris Ventresco – Master of Photography & Photographic Craftsman

Latest CPP's:

Rich Logan, Deerfield

David Roth, Ashland

Denise Pressman, South Dennis



## PPAM Degree Recipients

The PPAM Service Achievement Degree was established to honor members of PPAM who have contributed service and brought recognition to PPAM.

Image Competition points are submitted to the Degree Chair by the Image Competition Chairperson(s) for members to earn their PPAM Photographic Excellence Degree. The following individuals were presented their Photographic Excellence and Service degrees and stars by PPAM Degree Program Chair, Naomi Waters, CPP, at the Awards Banquet at Evolve.

### Photographic Excellence Degree

Jen Clark  
Patti Napolitano Driscoll  
Stephanie Olsen

### First Star

Trish Gilmore  
Anne Lyle  
Maurico Moreira  
Susan Asaro

### Second Star

Yedi Koeshendi  
Melvin Guante

### Third Star

Cassandra Sullivan

### Fourth Star

Cathleen Broderick  
Paula Swift

### Sixth Star

Nancy Green  
Ed Pedi

### Seventh Star

Karen McCall

Earned both degrees-converted to Red Ribbon

Susan Ogar  
Kris Ventresco plus first Star

If you volunteered at the EVOLVE Convention in any way, you are eligible to receive merits towards your PPAM Service Degree! Please complete and submit the form here: <https://bit.ly/3sicUfQ>



## Convention Wrap-Up by Nancy Green

When Cassandra asked me to write a convention wrap-up article, I immediately said “Sure thing!”. Now, here I sit, deadline tomorrow and I realize there is nothing I can say about the convention that wasn’t already said in social media. The day of the “wrap up” article is over. It’s all been said (Like I often say on a judges panel.) Instead, I’m going to share some thoughts I’ve been having. (Most of you will stop reading here, LOL)

So many of you stepped up to the plate to help during the convention. To you, we all thank you! These aren’t shallow words when I say, “We couldn’t have done it without you!”. There are so many facets to putting on ANY event this size that it can be very overwhelming. VERY overwhelming indeed. Though, just like a wedding, the most stress comes between 2-3 weeks before the event. Then...you hear a storm is surely going to hit and all hell breaks loose. Oy Vey!

Volunteering isn’t always easy, nor is it always fun while in the heart of the storm. Why do it...you ask? Because to get the feeling of belonging and helping, feeds your soul. Because you laugh and cry and yell with all the others volunteering, and you all become a family. Because you learn how to do things you never dreamed you would do. Because you get a “Thank you for all you do.” and a smile from complete strangers. Because there were people before you who did the same things that you volunteered to do, FOR YOU!

Are you new to PPAM? We are glad you are here. We want you to fall in love with PPAM and volunteer. Are you an “Oldie but goodie”? (like me) Then come on...you know how much it takes to keep the ball rolling, we need your experienced help. However long you’ve been part of the family, we are all glad you are part of it. To keep us strong and able to provide for our members, we need your involvement, commitment, and strength.

People just don’t know who to approach to offer help. It’s hard to volunteer if you don’t know where to start. I’d start by contacting our President, Paula Swift, and letting her know you are interested in helping. Let her know what you feel your strengths are and she can recommend a job. If you are good with numbers. How about working with our VP of Finance (Ann DiCristoforo). If you like Audio Visual and like to meet the speaker talent, how about working with the VP of Programs (Kris Ventresco). If you like people and socializing, how about helping the VP of Membership (Cindy Ko Irving). If you have a knack for web design and its upkeep, how about working with the VP of Technology (Sue Ogar). If you like to write and are good with social media, why not work with the VP of Communication (Cassandra Sullivan). Everyone of or board positions need people to fill them so wouldn’t it be best to test the waters before you jump in?

People ask me why I put so much into PPAM after all these years. Because I can attribute a large part of my success to this incredible organization. So many fantastic people from PPAM helped me in my business and they were the same people **doing** all the volunteering during PPAM events. If you were to ask me, volunteering and success go hand in hand.