

autumn Reflections

by Melody Burri

Looking for jaw-dropping landscapes bathed in rich, bold autumnal colors? That drama is doubled when it's reflected in the pristine waters of the Finger Lakes. Photographers and fall foliage chasers know that's where the deep yellows, oranges, reds and purples sing twice — once against azure skies and again in the mirror of lakes and streams.

"It's easy to overlook the sky in any scene, and it can play a huge role when capturing reflections," said Finger Lakes Photography Guild (FLPG) member Joy Underhill. "I love to create images where viewers do a double-take before they figure out exactly what they're seeing."

Diane W. Dersch also loves to take landscape photos with reflections anywhere near the lakes or waterfalls. "One of my go-to locations for photos in the Finger Lakes is Montezuma

National Wildlife Refuge," she said. "Depending on the time of year I can capture birds, animals, butterflies and flowers."

Paul Yarnall said he's a big fan of waterfalls, but the Finger Lakes region is also blessed with other endless photo opportunities, like wildlife of all sorts, mountains and valleys, streams and lakes, forests and fields, farms, quaint towns, and industrious creative people. "Mix in the four seasons and you have a constantly changing kaleidoscope of beauty everywhere you look in the Finger Lakes," said Yarnall.

Two of Dwight Folts' favorite places to kayak and photograph are West River and Canadice Lake at the south end launch site. West River is best in the spring and fall, he said.

Dotting the Finger Lakes countryside are its towns and villages, which offer the best of two worlds, according to Regina O. Muscarella. "They offer a unique juxtaposition



between thriving, bustling community life and historical charm and warmth," she said. "Penn Yan, for example, pays homage to the past by respectfully preserving and repurposing its architecture, melding a quaint hometown feeling with its flourishing downtown."

Robin Voorhees counts herself lucky to live on Keuka Lake in the summer. "We have lots of company," she said. "Friends love the wine and beer tours, boating, swimming and barbecuing at the lake. It's such a fun and beautiful place to live every season."

FLPG is a member club of the Photographic Society of America and the Niagara Frontier Regional Camera Club. Find FLPG online at fingerlakesphotographyguild.org, on Facebook and on YouTube.

Left: The beauty of the Finger Lakes can be found anywhere, as Lee Drake demonstrates by this roadside stream on the east side of Honeoye Lake after a rain.

Top: Photographer Dave Folts captured this kayaker paddling away from him along the West River, the inlet to Canandaigua Lake.

Above: Diane W. Dersch saw this blue heron checking out where the best fishing was for dinner at the Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge.



Above: "Since 1797, The Birkett Mills has been the centerpiece of Penn Yan," says photographer Regina Muscarella. "It remains open today, selling buckwheat products and gifts. I love the architecture and its reflection in the Keuka Lake Outlet. Look closely in the photo to see a heron enjoying his own reflection. It's a glimpse of simpler times in small town America."



Left: Charlie Cappellino took this less common shot from the pier in Canandaigua.



Top, right: "A lone duck changes course to rejoin the sunset flock. Montezuma is justly famous for its birds," states Barbara Drake. "But the gentle river and wetland scenes, fall foliage, wildflowers, sunsets, and even the many insects make any trip there a photographic bonanza."

Right: Joy Underhill captures an October sunset as it brackets a dock on Cayuga Lake.





Above: "Sweet As! is how I feel about living on Keuka Lake," exclaimed Robin Vorhees. "This sunset image was taken from my dock."

Left: "The mission on this morning was locating roadside wild flowers, but I happened to get a glimpse of this pond from the road in passing and decided to take a closer look," said Paul Yarnall. "I was rewarded with a classic summer scene."



Top: On this lovely autumn day in Avon, Joann K. Long photographed the graffiti-laden bridge which provided a scenic backdrop to the cascading waterfalls.

Right: While visiting Cummings Nature Center, this hidden pond covered with lily pads and awash in fall color and reflection was revealed to Don Delong.

