

PHOTO NOTES

Park West
Camera Club

April 2026



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Volume 88 • Issue 7

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Over 95 members' images inside!

The Park West Camera Club is an independent not-for-profit corporation. Guests are always welcome to our weekly Zoom meetings.

The PWCC newsletter, *Photo Notes*, is published every month by and for the members of the Park West Camera Club. Subscriptions are included with Club membership. Yearly subscriptions are available to non-members by email free of charge.

Submissions of full-length articles or smaller items of photographic or general interest are always accepted. The staff of *Photo Notes* reserves the right to edit any submissions which are published.

Photo Notes is optimized for viewing digitally.

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Cover Photo
Pink & Yellow Flower
© Chuck Pine

Club Officers

| | |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| President | Chuck Pine |
| V. President | Michael Schleiff |
| Corres. Sec. | Helen Bohmart Pine |
| Rec. Sec. | Christine Doyle |
| Treasurer | Joe Nawy |
| At-Large | Betsy Currier Jeff Langford |

Committee Chairs

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Competition | Hedy Klein |
| Field Trip | Jay Bitkower Ann Broder |
| Gallery | Jay Bitkower Ann Broder |
| Membership | Marlene Schonbrun |
| Photo Notes | Chuck Pine |
| Print Salon | Betsy Currier |
| Program | Marilyn Fish-Glynn Alice Somma |
| Social | Vacancy |
| Website | Michael Schleiff Christine Doyle |
| Workshop | Ed Lee Bruce Byers |

Currently Inactive Committees

Archive
House

President's Message

Adventures at Sea

I am writing this aboard the 2,666-passenger Pinnacle-class Holland America Line ship—the Nieuw Statendam. It is about 1:30 in the afternoon as I stare across the railing of our stateroom's balcony. The sun is shining above the seemingly unending ocean. The only clouds appear just above the horizon, I imagine a hundred miles distant.

My mind is traveling back to the late 50s/early 60s TV show starring Gardner McKay and Dean Stockwell—it was titled *Adventures in Paradise*. The next minute my mind jumps to another series from mid-decade, *Gilligan's Island*. (Please my mind, go back to the former, please.)

Hold on a second, Chuck, I think to myself. You're supposed to be writing about photography, about Park West. Oh, yeah. Sorry. I got lost in the moment. Now back to the reality of writing this.

It's Monday, April 6th. I'm wondering if I'll be able to join the Zoom meeting later tonight to see the Club's competition. Will there be a strong enough signal to join? Will I figure out the time difference? So much to think about...

We went to the team trivia event. Didn't win! Then off to



© Larry Rubin

dinner and the performance in the ship's theater. We rolled our way back to the cabin and tried to get online. But, alas, no such luck—all to be seen was a dreaded "connection failed."

How did it go? How were the "portals?" Who were the winners? Guess I'll have to wait until the replay is up on the website. Oh, well! It's off to bed.

I rise early on Tuesday morning and head out to the balcony, camera in hand, ready to shoot the sunrise. But, alas, it's overcast and drizzling. A light buoy dimly flashes in the mist. Maybe tomorrow will be better for shooting.

By the time you read this, if I can get it finished with all the distractions on board, and if I can get the email to work with a large file, we should be half way across the Atlantic. We'll be hoping to join Zoom for the *Before & After: Color to B&W* event next Monday. (Our fingers are crossed.)

Until then, be well and do some great photography,

Chuck

Photo Notes

- Publisher:** Park West Camera Club
- Editor:** Chuck Pine
- Committee:** Evelyne Appel, Madeleine Barbara, Ann Broder, Renée Harper, Gladys Hopkowitz, Hedy Klein, Helen Pine, Puneet Sood, and Julie Wosk
- Contributors:** Evelyne Appel, Ann Broder, Betsy Currier, Christine Doyle, Julie Foehrenbach, Mike Iannuzzi, Hedy Klein, Natalie Manzano, David Miller, Elena Pierpont, Chuck Pine, Helen Pine, Mike Schleiff, and Julie Wosk

Photo Notes is produced on a MacBook Pro using Apple Pages and Adobe Photoshop software.

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2025 - 2026 Schedule

Sep

- 1 No Meeting—Labor Day
- 8 Welcome Back *
- 15 Guest Speaker
- 22 No Meeting—Rosh Hashanah
- 25 PDI Workshop *
- 29 Business Meeting #1

Oct

- 6 Competition #1 *
- 13 Workshop—Composition *
- 20 Guest Speaker
- 23 PDI Workshop *
- 27 Theme—Halloween & Fall *

Nov

- 3 Competition #2 *
- 10 Mini Portfolio Night *
- 17 Guest Speaker
- 20 PDI Workshop *
- 24 Business Meeting #2

Dec

- 1 Competition #3 *
- 8 Workshop—Motion & Multiples
- 15 Holiday Party
- 22 No Meeting—Holiday Break
- 29 No Meeting—Holiday Break

Jan

- 5 Competition #4 *
- 12 You Be the Judge—Bridges *
- 19 Guest Speaker/MLK Day
- 22 PDI Workshop *
- 26 Vendor Night

Feb

- 2 Themed Competition #5* (Blue)
- 9 Before & After *
- 16 Guest Speaker/President Day
- 23 Interpretations *
- 26 PDI Workshop *

Mar

- 2 Competition #6 *
- 9 Vendor Night—Lensbaby
- 16 Guest Speaker
- 23 Theme Night—Motion & Multiples *
- 26 PDI Workshop *
- 30 Business Meeting #3

Apr

- 6 Themed Competition #7 * (Portals)
- 13 Before & After—Color/B&W *
- 20 Guest Speaker
- 23 PDI Workshop *
- 27 You Be the Judge—At the Museum *

May

- 4 Competition #8 *
- 11 Guest Speaker
- 18 Business Meeting #4
- 25 No Meeting—Memorial Day

Jun

- 1 Year End Competition *
- 8 Year End Project *
- 15 Otto Litzel Memorial Dinner
- 22 Expanding Visions 32
- 29 No Meeting

For full details see “Schedule of Activities” at the end of this issue of *Photo Notes*.

All Club Monday night meetings will be held using Zoom software unless otherwise stated in the “Schedule of Activities.”

* indicates members’ images requested

Coming this Summer



Official Club Field Trips

The Club has brought back field trips to our program. I'm not referring to the *Pop-Up* trips we've been having.



Official PWCC outings are back on the schedule. Several have already taken place—and with a great deal of success, I might add.

If you're interested in organizing and leading a field trip, contact Chuck with your ideas and we'll work with you to set it up.



Lightroom Shortcuts

Lightroom is a powerful tool that offers a huge range of features for photo editing. Knowing a few shortcuts and hidden features can speed up your workflow and improve your editing process.

Spread throughout this issue of *Photo Notes* are some helpful shortcuts and secrets that can benefit you...

Read, learn, and enjoy...



Portfolios Wanted

Photo Notes, your monthly Park West Camera Club newsletter, is looking for portfolios of members' work. Newly shot work—of course! Old images from your archives—why not? Anything else you'd like to share—fine!



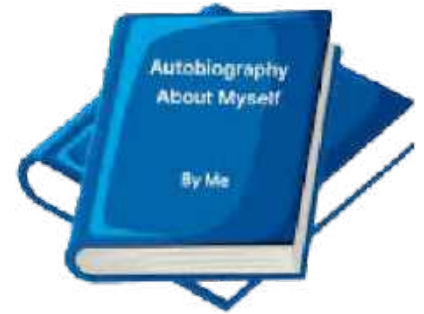
Please submit anywhere from a half dozen to ten files on a concise theme.

Images must be processed as if they were to be entered into a competition. [See page 7 for instructions on resolution, sizing, format, etc.] Include a short write-up (who, what, where, when) with each and every submission—spelling, grammar, and the rest don't count. We edit your words, not your images.

Even if you've submitted work in the past, we always want to see new and creative photography.

Member Bios

New Park West Camera Club members are invited to submit a short biography to help the rest of us to get to know you better. The Club's Membership Committee will be glad to help you with this task.



We also would like to ask our not-so-new Park West members to do the same. Tell us about yourself, what you like to shoot, your background and history in photography, and whatever you think would be of interest your fellow Club members and friends.



Please send us a photo of yourself and three or four of your favorite images to go with the mini bio. Send your submissions to *Photo Notes* at [<pwccny@aol.com>](mailto:pwccny@aol.com)

Zooming

Zoom is a web-based video-conferencing software tool that allows users to meet online. Zoom is compatible with Macs, Windows, smart-phones, and tablets. Zoom software is free to download to your devices.

The Club is using Zoom software to conduct all of its meetings. An email will be sent to all PWCC members prior to meetings. This email will contain the link to join the Zoom meeting. All you have to do is click on the link.

To download Zoom, go to www.zoom.us/download and click on the "Download" button. It's that simple!

Non-members who would like to join our Club meetings may request the link by sending an email to pwccny@gmail.com

Emailing PWCC

Send your competition images to...

pwcccompetition@yahoo.com

Send your articles, images, etc. for *Photo Notes* to...

pwccny@aol.com

Send all other email to...

pwccny@gmail.com

To contact Executive Committee members directly see the PWCC membership list for their personal email addresses.

Pop-Up Trips

The Club instituted Pop-Up field trips several years ago. Just what is a Pop-Up (also called a Drop-In) trip, I hear you cry? It is a field trip that any one of our Club members wishes to go on without a lot of pre-planning and fanfare.

You decide where you want to go and when you want to go there. You send a message via our Google Groups to all the other PWCCers who have signed up. It's that easy!

Whoever shows up will be a surprise. All you've got to do is shoot away and have fun doing it.

As an afterthought, it would be appreciated if all those who attend send a few images from the trip for *Photo Notes*. A short article would be nice but isn't necessary.

Submitting Images

The Club has over a dozen activities this year which ask you to submit images. These include competitions, theme nights, workshops, classes, and more. Here's what you need to know:

Images must be .jpg, with a resolution of 72 ppi, 2,000px on the longest side, and maximum size of 2MB.



Competition images must be titled as follows:

LastNameFirstInitial_Month
Year_Title.jpg

for example

JonesM_Jan26_Flower.jpg



Other images should be titled as follows:

Name_Number_Title

You may use your first and/or last name/initial. If you want your images shown in a particular order, number them 01, 02, etc. Use a real title, not the image number that came out of the camera.

for example

MaryJ_07_Flower





Sunshine Fund

A motion was passed at a Club business meeting to establish a Sunshine Fund as part of the Social Committee. The responsibilities of this new entity are to acknowledge birthdays, deaths, births, illnesses, and any other life events that impact our Club members and their families.

Long-time Club member Natalie Manzino has volun-

teered to take on this task for the Club. She has already purchased the necessary stationery to be able to express the sentiments of the Club and its members.

But Natalie needs your help in achieving the Club's goals through this committee. It would be great if each and every member could give her the month and day of their birthday (no years, please).

In addition, if you could let Natalie know of any life events that occur to any of our members, you or someone else, both present and past members, that would be great, too.

917-757-7086

<bklynnat@hotmail.com>

Lightroom Shortcuts

Before/After Comparison

Pressing “\” (backslash) in the Develop module lets you quickly switch between the before and after views of your image. This is a straightforward way to compare your edits with the original photo.



Club Meeting Times

The Park West Camera Club's Monday night meetings this year will all begin at 6:30 p.m.



You may sign into the Zoom meetings 15 minutes earlier to participate in the the lively member conversations.



PWCC Image Deadlines

| <u>Event</u> | <u>Submission Deadline</u> | <u>Event Date</u> |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Before & After (Color to B&W) | Apr. 6th | Apr. 13th |
| Competition #8 (Theme—Portals) | Apr. 27th | May 4th |
| Year-End Competition | May 18th | Jun. 1st |

Club Participation Nites

This coming year there will be 10 Monday night programs, (not including our monthly competitions) that require Club members to participate. Here's a quick rundown on these fun and educational activities...



- September 8th—*Welcome Back* What'd you do over the summer months? Share up to 10 images to tell your story. Entry deadline: September 6th.

- October 13th—Chuck Pine will be presenting a program on *Photographic Composition*. He would like to use your images to demonstrate the techniques. Entry deadline: mid August.

- October 27th—*Theme Night: Halloween & Fall* There's lots happening this time of year—from colorful leaves to ghosts and goblins. Show us how you interpret this season. Limit of 10 images, please. Entry deadline: October 25th.

- November 10th—*Mini Portfolio Night* Five Club members will volunteer to share a small portfolio of images on a single theme. They will explain their

concepts and then answer questions from the members. Participants will be selected in early October. Entry deadline: November 8th.



- January 12th—*You Be the Judge: Bridges* You may submit one image pertaining to the subject that has never been seen at any previous Club function. You may interpret the topic however you wish. Each entry will be commented on and scored by all participating Club members. Entry deadline: December 12th.

- February 9th—*Before and After* We are always asking other photographers, "How did you do that?" Tonight we will get the answers as Club members present their 'Before and After' images of the same shot,... and explain what they did and why they did it. Join us as we learn from each other. Entry deadline: February 7th.

- February 23rd—*Interpretations* The Club will provide the base images. The members will alter them in any way they see fit. Let your imagination and software skills be limitless. Entry deadline: February 21st.

- March 23rd—*Theme Night: Motion and Multiples* Following our December 8th workshop by Jamie Konarski Davidson, we'll look at images you've taken that depict subject or camera motion and multiple images of the same subject. You may submit up to 10 images of either one, or both techniques. Entry deadline: March 21st.

- April 13th—*Before and After: Color to Black & White* For this assignment you will share one of your favorably processed color images and then how you turned it into a B&W masterpiece. Entry deadline: April 11th.



- April 27th—*You Be the Judge: At the Museum* You may enter one image from or about any museum as long as it has never been seen at any previous Club activity. Each entry will be commented on and scored by participating Club members. Entry deadline: March 27th.

PDI Workshops

Our Projected Digital Image workshops are held monthly on Thursday evenings prior to competitions. Deadlines are the previous day.

Images of the Month

April 2026

PDI-of-the-Month

Portal 2 by Ann Broder

Honors

Monet's House by Evelyne Appel

Forgotten by Madeleine Barbara

Subway by Bruce Byers

Blue Shutters by Elayne Dix

East State Penitentiary by Elayne Dix

Crow in Flight by Sonia Durante

Ventana by Barry Fahrer

Peeping Tom by Florence Forman

Tree View by Florence Forman

Inferno by Paul Grebanier

Plantation Portal by Jill Greiss

Venetian Tunnel by JeffLangford

Venetian Doorway by JeffLangford

Cistern by Natalie Manzino

Modernity by Natalie Manzino

A Square Portal by Elena Pierpont

What's Going On by Elena Pierpont

Window Moiré by Chuck Pine

Silhouette in the Window by Helen Pine

Camo Convent by Tom Quaackenbush

Green Door by Alice Somma

Window Abstract by Janet Susin

Buenos Aires Doors by Laura Toledo

Thelner Portal by Peggy Winkelman

Portal of Light by Ruth Yashpan

Cumulative Points

(Through April 2026)

by Hedy Klein

| | | | |
|-------------------|-----|-------------------|----|
| Natalie Manzino | 112 | Allan Lauer | 66 |
| Sonia Durante | 110 | Doris King | 64 |
| Florence Forman | 102 | Richard Borowsky | 62 |
| Chuck Pine | 98 | Julie Foehrenbach | 62 |
| Michael Iannuzzi | 92 | Richard Gold | 58 |
| Jill Greiss | 88 | Renée Harper | 58 |
| Laura Toledo | 86 | Larry Rubin | 58 |
| Paul Grebanier | 84 | Larry Sapadin | 58 |
| Puneet Sood | 82 | Bill Apple | 52 |
| Charles Levin | 82 | Jeff Langford | 52 |
| Alice Somma | 82 | Christine Doyle | 50 |
| Dudley Slater | 78 | Dottie Mills | 50 |
| Hedy Klein | 78 | Julie Wosk | 48 |
| Peggy Winkelman | 78 | Will Aimesbury | 46 |
| Janet Susin | 78 | John Benson | 46 |
| Michael Schleiff | 76 | Jay Bitkower | 46 |
| Nicole Dosso | 74 | Alec Rill | 46 |
| Barry Fahrer | 72 | Catharine Smith | 42 |
| Elayne Dix | 72 | Tom Quackenbush | 42 |
| Bruce Byers | 70 | George Corbin | 40 |
| Ann Broder | 70 | Betsy Currier | 40 |
| Madeleine Barbara | 70 | Dov Bieber | 34 |
| Evelyne Appel | 68 | Eliot Nierman | 30 |
| Albyn Davis | 68 | Helen Pine | 30 |
| Raylie Dunkel | 68 | Remy Deyglun | 24 |
| David Miller | 68 | Carlton Johnson | 18 |
| Elena Pierpont | 68 | Ruth Yashpan | 18 |
| Marlene Schonbrun | 68 | Karen Corrigan | 8 |
| | | Steve Mullen | 8 |

This month was our second themed competition of the year. All of the images had to relate to "Portals" (doors, windows, entrances, etc.).

This month's winning images—the PDI-of-the-Month, the Honors images and the A images—are shown on the following 13 pages.



Image of the Month
Portal 2
© Ann Broder

Continued on next page...



'A' with Honors
Monet's House
© Evelyne Appel



'A' with Honors
Forgotten
© Madeleine Barbara



'A' with Honors
Blue Shutters
© Elayne Dix

Continued on next page...



'A' with Honors
Crow in Flight
© Sonia Durante

'A' with Honors
Peeping Tom
© Florence Forman



'A' with Honors
Inferno
© Paul Grebanier

Continued on next page...



'A' with Honors
Cistern
© Natalie Manzino



'A' with Honors
A Square Portal
© Elena Pierpont



'A' with Honors
Camo Convent
© Tom Quackenbush

Continued on next page...



'A' with Honors
Green Door
© Alice Somma

'A' with Honors
Buenos Aires Doors
© Laaura Toledo



'A' with Honors
Thelner Portal
© Peggy Winkelman



Continued on next page...



'A' with Honors
Subway
© Bruce Byers



'A' with Honors
East State Penitentiary
© Elayne Dix



'A' with Honors
Ventana
© Barry Fahrer

Continued on next page...



'A' with Honors
Vessel Doorway
© Jeff Langford

'A' with Honors
Modernity
© Natalie Manzino



'A' with Honors
What's Going On
© Elena Pierpont

Continued on next page...



'A' with Honors
Moiré Window
© Chuck Pine



'A' with Honors
Silhouette in the Window
© Helen Pine



'A' with Honors
Portal of Light
© Ruth Yashpan



'A' with Honors
Window Abstract
© Janet Susin

Continued on next page...



'A'
Croatia
© Richard Borowsky



'A'
NYC Door
© Nicole Dosso



'A'
Self Portrait
© Barry Fahrler



'A'
Cuban Ballerina
© Julie Foehrenbach



'A'
Help Me Portal
© Jill Greiss

Continued on next page...



'A'
Blue Door
© Doris King



'A'
Holiday Glow
© Hedy Klein



'A'
Blue
© Alan Lauer



'A'
Calder Eye
© Charles Levin



'A'
Auschwitz Foreboding
© Larry Rubin

Continued on next page...



'A'
Down the Path
© Puneet Sood



'A'
Dreaking
© Janet Susin



'A'
Enter
© Mike Schleiff



'A'
Window on the Caribbean
© Remy Geglun



'A'
Sunlit Moment
© MMadeleine Barbara

Continued on next page...



'A'
Floral Window
© Sonia Durante



'A'
Slit
© Paul Grebanier



'A'
Doorway
© Dottie Mills



'A'
Travels
© Doris King



'A'
Jardin
© Charles Levin

Continued on next page...



'A'
Spain
© Larry Sapadin

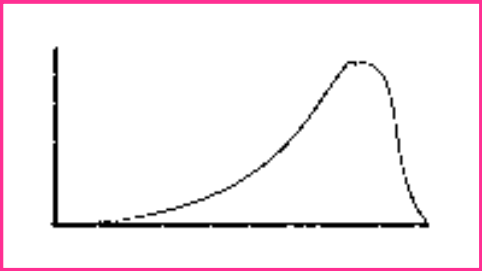


'A'
State Penitentiary
© Alice Somma

Congratulations to the winners in this season's sixth monthly competition. And a great big "thank you" to all those members who competed and attended.

Thank you to this month's judge, Ken Hoffman, for his thoughtful comments, and consistent scoring.

- 57 members have competed in this year's competitions.
- 47 in the April competition.
- 48 images this month received a score of 'A' or above (51.1%), 41 got a score of 'B' (43.6%), and 5 got a 'C' (5.3%)—all in all, a top-heavy "bell curve."



Our April Judge

Our judge for the month of April was Kenneth Hoffman.



Dr. Hoffman is a Professor of Communication at Seton Hall University, in South Orange New Jersey. Ken supervises the curriculum in computer graphics and photography. He has a PhD in Communications, an MFA in Film Production, and an MA in Cinema Studies.

Ken began his career as an Army Lieutenant working for the Department of Defense as a photographer-film director in Vietnam from June 1969 to June 1970. Ken's photos took the point of view of the photographer as an observer, discovering the people of Vietnam in the midst of their war-torn country.

Ken also shoots in and around his New Jersey home.

All images
© Kenneth Hoffman



Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

by Christine Doyle
Recording Secretary

March 24, 2026
Via Zoom

Participating ExCom Members:
President Chuck Pine
Vice President Michael Schleiff
Corres. Secretary Helen Pine,
Rec. Secretary Christine Doyle,
Treasurer Joe Nawy,
Members-At-Large Betsy
Currier. and Jeff Langford

Called to order: 6:10 p.m.

The meeting was called to discuss agenda items for the upcoming business meeting on March 30th, as well as other pending topics...

1. YBTJ 12/ At The Museum: The deadline to submit images for the April 27th event is this Friday, March 27th. As of this date, only 4 images have been received. After discussion, it was agreed that a minimum of 20 images was needed to go forward with the program. If 20 images are not received by the deadline, how to proceed will be raised at the Business Meeting.
2. April Meetings While Chuck & Helen Are Away: Chuck and Helen will be away on a cruise from April 4th to April 18th, and will miss the April 6th and April 13th meetings. Michael will

take over running the competition on the 6th. Marlene Schonbrun offered to put together the images for a member theme night on the 13th. Christine will contact Marlene to remind her to contact Michael to discuss logistics. Christine will send out the Weekly Reminders for the meetings.

3. Election Procedures: A Nominating Committee to run the election of officers for the 2026-27 Club year will need to be created. It was agreed that candidates would provide brief bios to the Club before the election. Betsy and Jeff, as members-at-large, agreed to serve as liaisons to the committee.
4. YEP (Year-End Project): Christine reported that attendance has been good. No decision has been reached as to what will be done at the end of the Project. The next Zoom meeting on the YEP Project is scheduled for March 25th.
5. Print Salon: Betsy reported that she has been unable to obtain more information about a possible exhibit of work by Print Salon members at the Church of the Heavenly Rest. Helen suggested she reach out to Pat Gabarini, who helped organize an exhibit there for the Sierra Photo Club.
6. Otto Litzel Memorial Dinner: It was agreed to

hold the Otto Litzel Memorial Dinner at the Arte Cafe again. Whether to have a buffet or sit-down dinner will depend on the cost of both, as well as the desire of Club members. The dinner will be held on June 15th.

7. Expanding Visions 32: Chuck is working on the syllabus for this year's Expanding Visions 32, which will be held in July and August in conjunction with the Club's summer sessions. It's anticipated that shooting will be done on four of the occasions and Zoom reviews on at least two. Helen suggested that Ed Lee be asked to set up a model shoot, again.
8. Club's 90th Birthday in 2027: Christine noted that the Club will celebrate its 90th birthday next year, and that the Club should start to think about what to do to celebrate this achievement.
9. Joe will send his Treasurer's Report to Helen for the next Weekly Reminder email..
10. Joe will contact Gladys Hopkowitz to confirm that she paid the bill for renting the party space at her building for the Club's Labor Day Weekend Picnic, and make arrangements to reimburse her.

Adjournment: 7:30 p.m.

Business Meeting Minutes

by Joe Nawy
Substitute Recording Secretary

March 30, 2026
Via Zoom

Participating ExCom Members:
President Chuck Pine
Vice President Michael Schleiff
Corres. Secretary Helen Pine,
Treasurer Joe Nawy

Absent ExCom members:
Rec. Secretary Christine Doyle,
Members-At-Large Betsy
Currier and Jeff Langford

Called to order: 6:31 p.m.

A motion was made and approved to suspend the reading of the minutes from November's business meeting. Likewise, a motion to forego the Treasurer's report was passed. (Both have been sent to the membership, are on the Club website, and/or been published in *Photo Notes*.)

Committee Reports:

- *Competition Committee*
Hedy Klein announced that tonight marks the deadline for submissions to next week's themed competition. Participants requesting confirmation of image receipt should refrain from sending separate emails.
- *Field Trip Committee*.
No report was provided.



- *Gallery Committee*
Julie Wosk stated efforts are underway to secure a venue for a Club-wide exhibit, likely in the autumn. Ann Broder, Betsy Currier, and Julie have extensively searched for suitable gallery spaces with limited success.
- *Membership Committee*
Marlene Schonbrun reports no changes; membership remains at 92.
- *Photo Notes Committee*.
The deadline for submissions to the next issue is tonight; this includes articles, comments, images, or other information. Hedy inquired about *Photo Notes* preparation during Chuck and Helen Pine's absence. Chuck advised submitting information as usual.
- *Print Salon*
Betsy Currier was absent. Ann Broder presented the keynote from their meeting, sent it to Betsy and distributed it independently. Members noted they had not received it; Ann agreed to resend.
- *Program Committee*
Marilyn Fish-Glynn and Alice Somma were absent. Chuck reported speakers and judges are scheduled through May. Confirmation of three judges for the year-end competition is pending.

- *Website Committee*
Michael Schleiff reported no new developments and welcomed any suggestions.
- *Workshop Committee*
Ed Lee and Bruce Byers were not present.

Old Business:

- Holiday Party*
Chuck commended the holiday party at Arte Cafe as a notable success. There was general agreement from the attendees.
- Themed Competitions*
Chuck reviewed the "Blue" themed competition, considered successful. Next week's theme is "Portals." Members are encouraged to submit images before midnight tonight. Future themed competitions will be discussed at the next business meeting

New Business:

From the Chair

- Election Procedures were initiated by appointing a nominating committee (Will Amsbury and Helen Pine volunteered) to identify candidates for the five officer positions (President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Membership Secretary, Treasurer) and two Members-at-Large. Voting will occur at the May 18th business meeting.

B. Year-End Competition

Scheduled for June 1st, it is different from our monthly competitions. Members may submit four PDIs from prior competitions, matching original titles and dates. Deadline for submissions is May 18th, details to appear in *Photo Notes*. Judging will occur one week prior, recorded and rebroadcast on June 1st. Judges will score images, originally from one to five, revised to one to nine to avoid ties. Marilyn and Alice are coordinating judge selection.

C. Otto Litzel Memorial Dinner Planned for June 15th, researching returning to Arte Cafe based on previous successes. A member poll was suggested to determine buffet or wait service preference. Formation of an organizing committee proposed; Sonia Durante volunteered, Betsy may participate based on last year's involvement.

D. "You Be The Judge 12—At the Museum" Submission deadline was last week; 28 images received. Joe Nawy is preparing ballots, which will be distributed shortly. Voting will run for at least a week, scoring images one through seven, with space for comments. Winners, scores, and comments will be announced; ballot cutoff is April 15th. Natalie

Manzino requested that the meeting be recorded.



E. Expanding Visions 32: This spring/summer class features field trips, review sessions, and assignments. Summer meetings will be devoted to field trips with Thursday review sessions. June 22nd serves as the

introductory class covering assignments, destinations, techniques, and equipment.

F. Gallery Exhibits: Ann Broder continues to explore potential venues for Club outings and gallery visits.

G. Club Anniversary: Park West will celebrate its 90th anniversary in 2027. Past celebrations included an exhibit at Soho Photo Gallery (90th) and speaker series featuring renowned photographers (50th). Suggestions for recognizing this milestone include a book of members' photos, a video of PDI of the month, and collaboration with B&H. The Club's archive photographed and donated to the New York Historical Society, is accessible online. Judy Rosenblatt was previously the contact. Consideration given to collaborating with NYHS for an exhibition. Ideas for celebration should be sent to Chuck

until an *ad-hoc* committee is set up.

H. Chuck notified members of his and Helen's upcoming transatlantic cruise, limiting their availability. In their absence, Michael Schleiff will oversee next Monday's competition. On April 13th, Marlene Schonbrun will lead a "Before and After—Color to B&W" theme night.

From the Floor

A. Mike Ianuzzi proposed polling members regarding preferences for theme-based competitions ahead of the May meeting.

B. Hedy recommended broad themes to increase member participation. The definition of "Portals" was clarified to include doors, windows, entrances, etc.

Good and Welfare

Natalie Manzino invited all new members who wish to receive birthday and/or anniversary greetings to join the list.

The meeting was formally adjourned at 7:15 p.m.



Year-End Competition

The Year-End Competition will be held on Monday, June 1st. It's different from our monthly competitions: both the rules of entry and the judging are different.

Each Club member may submit up to four PDIs. But, and this is a big BUT—all the submissions must have been entered into one of the monthly competitions held earlier this year (October through May). It doesn't matter if the images were awarded honors or got a 'C'—they are eligible for this competition. Another

big BUT—images may not be altered from the way they were first entered—even if the judge said “that would improve the photo”—it must be the original, unaltered image with the same title (including the original month of entry). Absolutely no changes!!!

The image submission deadline is 11:59 p.m. on Monday, May 18th.

There will be three judges. Each of the judges will score from one to nine points for each image. The scores will be added and the total will be announced. An

image can accumulate from 3 to 27 points. The judges make no comments during the scoring.

There will be one winner (the PDI-of-the-Year) plus four runners-up. If there are tie scores for the PDI-of-the-Year there will be additional votes cast by the judges to determine the winner. If more than four images are tied for runner-up, they will all be declared runners-up.

Due to the uncertainties of Zooming, the judging will be done prior to the June 1st date. This way we can edit the recording for time and glitches.

Election Procedures

We began the Club's yearly election procedures at the March business meeting with the appointing of the Nominating Committee (composed of Helen Pine and Will Aimesbury).

They will present their slate of (at least) one nominee for each position on the Executive Committee (president, vice president, treasurer, corresponding/membership secretary, recording secretary, and two members-at-large) to the membership at the last meeting in April.



Any Club member who is interested in running for an office may contact the Nominating Committee of their intent.

After the Nominating Committee's slate has been announced, the floor will be opened to nominations. Any Park West member may nominate any other Club member. Nominations will be accepted from the floor at each Club meeting leading up to, but not including, the May business meeting.

The next phase of the PWCC election process is the election itself. This takes place at the May business meeting. If there is only one nominee for each position, then a motion may be made asking the Club's recording secretary to cast a single unanimous vote for the slate. Should there be more than one nominee for any of the seven positions, then a vote must be taken for that position (those positions). The secretary can still cast the unanimous vote for the unopposed candidates.

Members must be present at the meeting to cast their vote.

Y•E•P!

by Ann Broder,

Thank you to all the Yeppers who attended our 5th YEP meeting! We had a lively discussion in general, and your insights on the project's purpose and direction were noted. Much conversation reminded me of the choices we make as creatives, the doubts we conjure along the way, and the trepidation about trying new ways to do old things. As we move forward, keep in mind your joy of photography, the excitement you feel when you learn a new way to use your camera or make an edit, and remember why you are doing this storytelling project.

The most frequently heard comment from participants was "a chance to try something new." No one said it would be easy, and no one said there wouldn't be doubt along the way. It seems everyone chose to be here for the challenge and the chance to visually discuss the subjects that have meaning to them. To that end, be open to new ideas, be intentional, and be mindful. You can reach out to Christine, Marlene, or me with questions or concerns.

As we move forward, be sure to apply the elements that make a good image. Consider compositions that clearly identify the subject, pay attention to blown-out

highlights and too dark shadows, make straight horizons, and fix verticals if you can. Street photography is harder to apply straight verticals and horizons without a tripod, but do your best handheld, and make the capture about the subject.

When working with a tripod, the horizons and verticals should be perfect. Details are important when visually telling a story about an intense subject. Use a longer lens to zoom in and capture the details without disturbing the subject. Change your perspective. Zoom with your feet when working with a shorter lens. When cropping, pay attention to the image edges to avoid leaving parts of random objects. Sharpen your images after you finish the edits. I know it's a lot to think about, but in the end, you not only will have told the story, but you will have told it well.

The next Zoom meeting is scheduled for April 22nd. We will continue to send 3-4 images (by April 15th) to Christine, Marlene, and me. We will not group images in April. Expect more information about the next meeting after *Photo Notes* comes out.

Otto Litzel Dinner

The Club's annual Year-End Dinner, named in honor of our one-time director, Otto Litzel, will take place on Monday night, June 15th. The Executive Committee made a recommendation to hold the affair at Arte Cafe—the site of last year's dinner and our holiday party. The members present (there were 27 of us in total) agreed.



A committee was named to work on the arrangements. It consists of Sonia Durante and Betsy Currier. Once they have made contact with Arte Cafe and gotten the latest menu and pricing details, a survey will be sent to Club members to determine if we prefer to have a sit-down dinner or a buffet-style event.

The Otto Litzel Memorial Year-End Dinner (the OLMD, for short) is when we present awards to our Club leaders (the ExCom members and committee chairs) as well as to our competition winners.

It's the Club event you really don't want to miss!!

Print Salon

by Ann Broder

On Tuesday, March 17th, eight Print Salon members braved the green waves on the streets one Manhattan (it was, of course, St. Patrick’s Day) to attend a hands-on demo by Park West member Bruce Byers and Fred Tenorio, owner and operator of Digital Works Solutions. (The meeting was held at DWS.)

Our leader, Betsy Currier, arrived armed with her cell phone, ready too record our discussions on file preparation for printing, printer settings, matting, framing, and other topics such as printing books, having gallery shows, and the mistakes we make as shooters.

Fred gave a demonstration on paper types including their characteristics and which ones are suitable for color or black-and-white prints. Bruce talked about the versatility of pre-cut mattes and standard frames.

The time went by quickly and ended on a positive note for everyone in attendance.

A Keynote presentation was sent to all Club members recapping this event.

Our next meeting will take place on April 14th. We will go over what we learned from the visit and share recent photos. New members are always welcome. Contact Betsy at edcurrier7@gmail.com for details and directions.

Unexpected Moment



Seen In Kyoto
© Julie Wosk

The *Ollie Fife* is an annual PSA-recognized international contest and exhibition. (PSA stands for the Photographic Society of America Worldwide). The 2026 theme is *Unexpected Moments*. It was open to Both PSA members and non-members.

This year, one of our Park West Camera club members, Julie Wosk, had an image selected for the exhibition.

Congratulations, Julie!



Lensbaby On Sale

Following our presentation to the Club by Lensbaby’s Jamie Konarski Davidson, Club member Jill Greiss received an email that announced a demo sale—up to 70% off most of the great Lensbaby products.

Limited availability and camera mounts, but all at unbelievable prices...



March Guest Speaker



The guest speaker for March was Raquel Natalicchio. She is a bilingual photojournalist originally from Los Angeles, now based in Houston as a staff photojournalist for the *Houston Chronicle*. Raquel's work focuses on social issues, including migration, political mobilization, and community-driven stories across the U.S.–Mexico border. Here are a few of the images she shared with the Club...

All images
© Raquel Natalicchio



Curtain Raisers

by Helen Pine

Curtain raisers are short (*no more than five minutes*) photography programs (*with a minimum of narration*) presented by Club members prior to our guest speakers.

Here's the schedule for the 2025-2026 Club year...

| | |
|----------|-------------------|
| October | Marlene Schonbrun |
| November | Elena Pierpont |
| December | Evelyne Appel |
| January | Jeffrey Langford |
| February | Helen Pine |
| March | George Corbin |
| April | Dinorah Capota |
| May | Natalie Manzino |



April Birthdays

by Natalie Manzino

Here's the list of the Club members who celebrate their birthday during this month:

Madeleine Barbara
 Steve Mullen
 Paul Perkus
 Laura Toledo



Committee Liaisons

The Executive Committee (ExCom) has decided to continue for this coming year with the committee liaison model to spread the responsibility among the entire Executive Committee.

Here's how it'll work: Each ExCom member will be assigned committees as a liaison. Each committee chair or co-chair will report to the ExCom through this liaison. In this manner, it is felt that communication will flow much more smoothly, in both directions, between the committees. In addition, any concerns raised by the ExCom will be passed along to the committee chairs through the liaisons.

Here are the committee liaison assignments for the 2025-2026 Club year...

| | |
|-------------|-----------|
| Competition | Michael |
| Field Trip | Chuck |
| Gallery | Helen |
| Membership | Helen |
| Photo Notes | Chuck |
| Print Salon | Betsy |
| Program | Christine |
| Website | Michael |
| Workshop | Joe |

Inactive Committees

Archive
 House
 Social



Photo Notes Deadlines

| <u>Issue</u> | <u>Deadline</u> |
|--------------|-----------------|
| September | Aug 18th |
| October | Oct 6th |
| November | Nov 3rd |
| December | Dec 1st |
| January | Jan 5th |
| February | Feb 2nd |
| March | Mar 2nd |
| April | Apr 6th |
| May | May 4th |
| Summer | Jun 1st |

The sooner articles and items are submitted to *Photo Notes*, the quicker the editing and revision process can begin. Once all items are in place the draft copy of *Photo Notes* will be sent to the editors who will then have several days to edit and return their comments.

Upon completion, the *Photo Notes* issue will be sent to all members, friends of the Club, and to the Website Committee to be uploaded to our website <www.parkwestcameraclub.org>





PSA Membership

The Club is a member of PSA, the Photographic Society of America. Are you?

Individual Member Benefits

- Online Photography Classes
- Webinars
- Individual Competitions
- Travel Advisors
- Monthly *PSA Journal*
- Study Groups
- Personal Gallery Page
- Individual Competitions
- Member Discounts (photo hosting and sharing; camera and lighting equipment; fine art master class; KelbyOne; software offerings)

Lightroom Shortcuts

Finding spots

While using the Spot Removal tool in the Develop module, press "A" to turn the feature on and off. This helps to highlight imperfections that are otherwise hard to see.



Instagram

by Julie Foehrenbach

Instagram, a social media site that focuses on pictures more than words, is a natural venue for a camera club. Park West launched its own Instagram page over three years ago and as of last month, we had 918 postings and 573 followers. Impressive! The goal is to showcase our work and attract new members to the Club.

We only post images that have received an A or higher in our monthly competitions and whose creators give us their permission to post. To protect our work, we have employed settings that prevent others from stealing our images or profiles as their own.

If you want to create your own personal page, keep in mind that Instagram is primarily a mobile app—it's designed to be used with a smartphone or a tablet. If you use a computer, you can look at the pages ("feeds") but you won't be able to post a thing. To visit the Park West page, download the Instagram app on your phone or iPad or go to www.instagram.com on your computer. Search for @Parkwestcameraclub and once you have found the site, press the *FOLLOW* button.

On the Website

by Michael Schleiff

The Club has set up forums for all members to use. The topics—which you join or create—could cover any area of photography and imaging including, but not limited to, how-tos, gear, Photoshop, Lightroom, plug-ins, and more.

To get access to a forum, you must be signed in to the Club website with an active email address. After logging in, go to *PWCC Members Discussion Forums* on the dropdown menu and click to enter. As you scroll down you'll see a basic explanation of how these forums work, along with a how-to video. At the bottom of the page, there will be a heading for *Park West Camera Club*, with a button, *View Topic*.

Once selected you will see the topics that have been set up along with a button to *Create New Topic*. You can view the topics and all the posts. You may even post a comment of your own.

All signed-up members will receive an email notice when new posts have been added. (You can easily *opt out* from any of the forums.)

Any questions, regarding the forums, contact me at my personal email address mrscheliff@gmail.com

Thank you and enjoy the PWCC forums.

Gallery News & Thoughts

by Ann Broder,

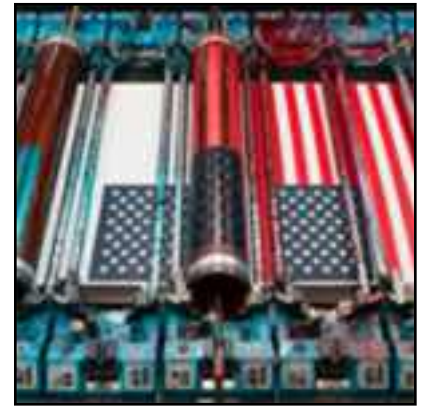
Made In America: The Industrial Photography of Christopher Payne at the Cooper Hewitt (Smithsonian Design Museum) 2 East 91st Street
 Located on the 2nd floor
 Exhibit thru Sept 27th, 2026

I've seen several gallery shows recently, but this one at the Cooper Hewitt museum is a standout! *Made in America* is about industry in the USA. It is the culmination of a subject that speaks to Payne on a personal level: his love of architecture, particularly industrial architecture. The photographs highlight both age-old and modern technology. The collection of 70 oversized color prints, framed in white, stands out against the award-winning architecture of the Andrew Carnegie mansion and envelops the viewer with the dichotomy of old and new, inviting you to look into each photograph as though there were much more to see.

Unlike earlier work by Payne, these photographs include the people associated with the operation of the machines and their by-products, thereby providing a visual understanding of the connection between the human hand and eye still necessary to

monitor modern mechanical operations. Meticulous planning, executed with Payne's 15-year-old 4 x 5 large-format camera, gives the subjects intense clarity. The enormity of factories and modern technology is skillfully composed using compositional techniques, such as the rule of thirds, leading lines, framing the subject, filling the frame, and negative space. Payne's use of ambient and strobe lighting, as needed to highlight staged areas with people, has put a stamp on his photographic style.

The story of *Made In America* is a must-see because it is the culmination of everything we as photographers strive for. The work shows meticulous planning, precise execution of key technical attributes, and strong creativity. I left the exhibit feeling inspired and awed. I knew that if I could think about the exhibit once I left the building and continue to reflect on it days after that, then it must have told the story well.



All images
 © Christopher Payne

Theme Night

Motion & Multiples

Back in December, Park West had a workshop presentation on two separate but similar topics—how to infuse motion into an otherwise static image and how to multiply a subject.

Here are some of the pix grate were shared that night...



© Chuck Pine



© Elena Pierpont



© Jeffrey Langford



© Evelyne Appel



© Barry Fahrer



© Marlene Schonbrun



© Helen Pine



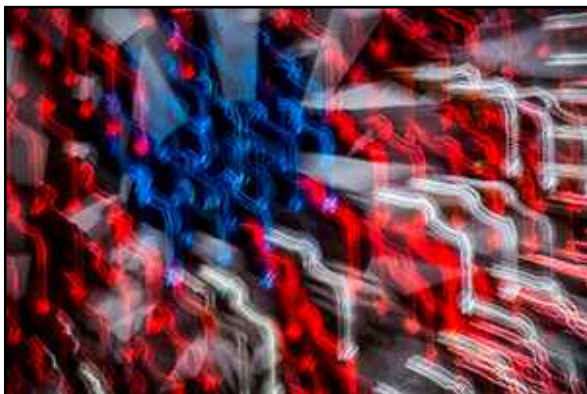
Mike Schleiff



© Cindy Walpole



© Natalie Manzino



© Florence Forman



© Janet Susin



© Albyn Davis



© Al Padilla



© Steve Mullen



© Peggy Winkelman



© Jill Greiss



© Alice Somma



© Hecy Klein



© Carlton Johnson

© Laura Toledo



New Kodak Films

Kodak Ektachrome E100 is a revived, color reversal (slide) film, featuring extra fine grain, vibrant color saturation, and a neutral tonal scale. It's available in 35mm and 120 formats. This emulsion is designed for high-quality scanning and is processed in E-6 chemicals. All previous

versions of Ektachrome were discontinued by 2013.

Eastman Kodak also has released two other film lines—Ektacolor Pro (160, 400, 800), a color negative/print film and Ektapan (100, 400, P3200), a black-and-white negative film. Both appear to be, high-quality rebrands of older emulsions (similar to the Portra and T-Max lines).



The Ektapan 100 and 400 list at \$11.99 per 36 exposure roll; the 3200 goes for \$13.95/roll. The prices for the Ektacolor films (35mm-36 exposures) are \$14.59, \$16.99, and \$19.95 respectively for the 160, 400, and 800 speed films. The Ektachrome 100 is going for a whopping \$21.99 for a roll. Processing is extra for all films.

Member Portfolio

Elena Pierpont — Benches

These images are from a series that Elena has been working on for some time. Sit back and enjoy them...



All images
© Elena Pierpont

Paintings and Photographs

by Evelyne Appel

We photographers love to look at beautiful paintings. Some of us are talented and do paint. I did not, that is, until Adobe's Photoshop came into my life. With its filters, surprise, now I can paint!

Walking in Paris along the Seine I photographed an old sailboat. I used a pointillism filter a la Seurat. The photog disappears, a painting comes up. What a pleasure!

In my favorite garden, Wave Hill, a swallowtail butterfly posed for me. It is so colorful, but I decided to give it a vivid background.

And then a tulip got my attention. A filter gave it a striking background.

In Claude Monet's garden his famous pond is lush and brilliant. So many filters to choose from.

For my rose of Istanbul I used the Poster Edges and the Rough Pastel filters.

No artist will agree with me that I paint. But I have fun. After all, Ansel Adams once wrote, "You don't take a photograph, you make it."

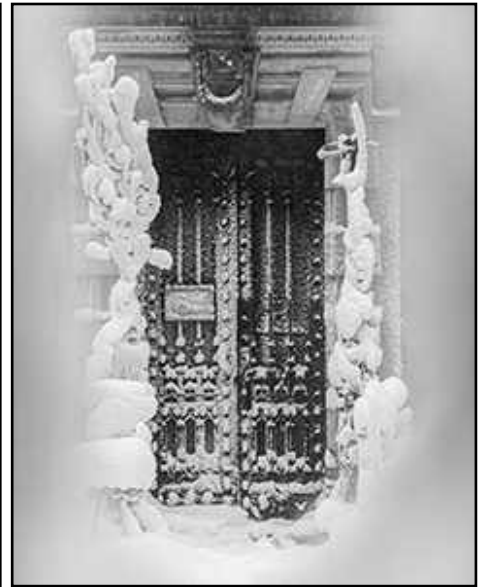


All images
© Evelyne Appel

PDI Workshop

The Club’s PDI (Projected Digital Image) Workshop was held on Thursday night, March 26th. We looked at the images submitted by six Club members for comments and possible alterations using Photoshop and other software. 15 or so Park Westerners were in the gallery and participated with their comments and made suggestions for improving all of the photos.

Here are some of the images that we worked on...



This snowy scene was shot through a window by Jeff Langford. The first thing we did was use the **Crop Tool** to remove the white strip on the top of the image and some of the space at the bottom of the image. Next, while in **Photoshop**, we went to **Filter > Camera Raw...** and moved the **Contrast Slider** (nested under **Light**) to the right. Finally, we used the **Remove Tool** to eliminate the black bars on the left and right sides of the image.



Cathy Smith’s shot of sleeping Mallard ducks needs a few minor adjustments. In Photoshop we used the **Crop Tool** to remove a small amount from the top and bottom of the image. We went to **Filter > Camera Raw...** and used the **Remove Tool** to separately get rid of the large piling in the background, the cleat (center right) and the tip of the cleat (lower left). While still in **Camera Raw**, we increased the **Contrast** and added a darkening **Vignette** to concentrate the viewer’s eye on the central birds. It was suggested that we transplant some open eyes onto some of the birds, but we decided to “let sleeping birds lie.”

Lightroom Shortcuts

Batch Editing

Lightroom allows you to apply edits from one photo to others, which is a great

time-saver. After editing one photo, press

Shift + Ctrl + C (PC)

or

Shift + Cmd + C (Mac)

to copy the settings.

Then select other photos and press **Shift + Ctrl/Cmd + V** to paste these settings across multiple images.



We all liked the composition of Mike Schleiff's image looking down in the Guggenheim Museum. Minor changes we made were to use the **Crop Tool** to come down from the top and in from the right. We used a Brightness/Contrast Adjustment Layer to lower the brightness a tad and increase the contrast slightly. Finally, we used the **Remove Tool** (from the **Tool Bar**) to remove a few minor distractions.



The use of leading lines in Charles Levin's made this image "pop." We used the **Crop Tool** on the top and bottom of the image. We used it again from the right to place the pedestrian on the rightmost Rule of Thirds line. We used the **Remove Tool** to eliminate the car in the background, thus concentrating the viewer's eye on the main subject of the image.

Lightroom Shortcuts

Targeted Adjustment Tool

In the HSL/Color, Tone Curve, and B&W panels,

you can use the Targeted Adjustment Tool (TAT) to directly click and drag on the image to adjust

parameters like saturation, hue, and luminance for that specific color or tone.



These two young girls playing with the water fountain was captured by Laura Toledo. To concentrate more on the action, we used the **Crop Tool**. We then used the **Remove Tool** to get rid of the triangular distraction on the top of the image.



Marlene Schonbrun's Man in Shadows was appreciated by all of us. We thought that the image could use some minor improvements. We used the **Crop Tool** from the left and bottom to move the person onto a power point (where two Rule of Thirds lines intersect). We then went to **Select > Subject** to isolate the man and then we clicked on **Image > Adjustments > Brightness/Contrast...** and upped the **Brightness Slider** slightly. Finally, we went to **Select > Inverse** and moved the **Brightness Slider** to the left to darken the rest of the image.

Lightroom Shortcuts

Create Virtual Copies

Press **Ctrl/Cmd + ' (that's an apostrophe)** to create a

virtual copy of an image. This is useful when experimenting with

different edits without altering the original file.

Movie Review



The Bride!, a romance film written and directed by Maggie Gyllenhaal, was released in movie and IMAX theaters last month. It is based on the 1935 film, *The Bride of Frankenstein*. It was reviewed by Julie Wosk.

Besides being a Park West Camera Club member, Julie is an author who writes on the history of technology and gender. Some of her published titles include *My Fair Ladies: Female Robots, Androids, and Other Artificial Eves*, and *Artificial Women. Sex Dolls, Robot Caregivers, and More Facsimile Females*. (Julie is also professor emerita at The State University of New York Maritime College, a painter, and an independent curator of museum exhibits.

Julie’s movie review of *The Bride!* appeared in the March issue of *Ms. Magazine*. You can read it here < <https://ms-magazine.com/2026/03/12/the-bride-feminist-review/>>

Julie was interviewed by a reporter from *Variety* about *The Bride!* Here’s a link <<https://variety.com/2026/film/news/maggie-gyllenhaal-the-bride-frankenstein-history-explained-1236679836/>>

Congratulations Julie!

East Ayrshire Life

David Miller, our Club member in Scotland, publishes a monthly blog <www.cairngormslife.com> of images depicting his life in Scotland’s southwestern region of East Ayrshire.

[It is ten thirty here in Santa Monica, just looked at the weather forecast for home (where it is six thirty at night) and the temperature is eight degrees, rain and a forty mile an hour wind. Where we have just been for a walk in twenty four degrees heat, no wind and not a cloud in the sky. Just what the body and mind needs this time of the year. Virtually over the jet lag so we can enjoy the days. Below are our early Sunday morning stroll shots before the rest of the family emerge from their Sunday morning lay in.]



All images
© David Miller

Member Update



Former Park West member, Joan Slatkin, was interviewed by *Citymeals on Wheels* as one of their clients. The images that are shown here were posted on their Facebook page. Text from the interview follows...

At 94, the thing Joan misses most is looking at life through her camera lens.

For decades, she photographed life across the City, often heading to demonstrations in Union Square Park near her home to document protests and gatherings

Some of her most meaningful photographs were far more personal—portraits she took of her mother during visits to Florida. Joan’s mother lived to be 100, and those images remain some of her favorites.

Now, arthritis in her hands and problems with her balance make it impossible for her to hold a camera the way she once did. “I was really very into it,” Joan says. “Now, I can’t do a thing. I really miss it.”



Photo Cartoon



Lightroom Shortcuts

Quick Develop

The Lightroom Library module’s Quick Develop panel lets you apply basic adjustments to a selected photo or group of photos without switching to the Develop module. This can be a great time saver for minor tweaks.





About (Y)our Website

by Michael Schleiff

Park West Camera Club's website offers an array of topics for your review. The site should be your go-to place to get information regarding the Club. Following is just a partial list of sections that can be found on the website:

- Home Page—This is our face to the Internet world. On it is a listing of all the latest news and upcoming schedule of events. We highlight the latest competition winners in a continual loop for everyone to see. In addition, there's a direct link to the latest edition of *Photo Notes*. New issues are uploaded immediately upon their release each month. Finally, under the masthead, there is a menu area that lists 12 different areas of various Club info, some of which are:
- Newsletters—10 years of past *Photo Notes* issues are currently available online and may be downloaded.
- Organization—features the latest PDF files containing membership information including the Park West Constitution and Bylaws. In addition, there is a "Resource Link" submenu. Listed here are web links to various imaging-related websites. Included are sites offering Photoshop and Lightroom help. We are always looking to add links, so if you have any photography-related websites that you would like to add, please contact us.
- Competition Manual & Labels—this is where the Monthly Judging Guidelines and Competition Manual are to be found. The Competition Manual includes detailed specifications on presenting PDI images for entry into competitions.
- Member Galleries—are available to show your work on the web. They can be accessed in the Member Galleries Menu or directly from any web browser by searching Park West Camera Club and your name. The instructions for setting up a gallery may be found at the first dropdown in the Club Members Galleries menu "Instructions to Create a Members Gallery." If you have any questions about uploading your images, please follow up with the website committee.
- How-to Videos, Notes, and Speakers—all speaker talks have been recorded and uploaded to the website. In addition, we have how-to videos covering various techniques to help editing your photographs.

Your Website Committee is continually uploading new and exciting information to the website. The goal is to make www.parkwestcameraclub.org a primary source for Club and imaging information. We are always looking to expand the website. If you have any ideas, please contact Michael Schleiff or Christine Doyle.

Lightroom Shortcuts

Adjustment Brushes

When using an adjustment brush in the Develop Mode, you can change the brush size and feathering by dragging the mouse while holding down the corresponding keyboard shortcuts. Pressing "[" or "]" adjusts the size, while "Shift + [" or "Shift +]" adjusts the feathering.

Industrial Photo Exhibit

by Julie Foehrenbach

A few weeks ago, on a freezing February day, Natalie Manzano and I saw a gorgeous photo exhibit: *Made in America: The Industrial Photography of Christopher Payne*. The exhibit runs at the Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum in the old Andrew Carnegie Mansion, located at 2 East 91st Street, at Fifth Avenue. The show runs through September 27. The museum is open daily from 10 - 6. Don't miss it!

Payne—who was originally trained as an architect—uses a medium format camera to make images of working people engaged in the manufacture of everything from pencils to pianos to jet engines. The endless repetition of identical forms and colors—rollers, spools, gears—result in some really dramatic and very beautiful images.

Factories are busy, messy places. Payne attempts to identify a single, beautiful detail that embodies the essence of the work being done—the brightly colored paint drying on a pencil, the curve of a piece of piano, the immense scale of a tire made for an earthmoving machine. These are not spontaneous “takes,” but rather extensively planned and meticulously lit moments in the manufacturing process.

In Christopher Payne's own words, “My photographs are a celebration of the making of things,... and the mechanical precision brought to bear on these materials that give them form and purpose. They are also a celebration of teamwork

and community, revealing how people of varying ages and skills come together to work toward a common goal.”

There are over 70, mostly very large, gorgeous photos in the show. Here are a selected few of them.



All images
© Christopher Payne

Shooting Birds in Motion

Following are some general recommendations when you photograph birds in a variety of situations. These shutter speeds should work with any lens up to a 600mm of focal length. (These suggestions come from renowned birdman Arthur Morris's website, <www.birdsasart-blog.com>)

Birds in flight

Ideal: 1/3200 or 1/4000 sec
 Usually acceptable: 1/2500 sec
 Sometimes you can get away with shutter speeds ranging from 1/1600 to 1/2000 sec
 Note: folks who want razor sharp wingtips when doing flight photography on small, fast species recommend a shutter speed of 1/8000 sec



Birds in action

Ideal: 1/2000 or 1/2500 sec is usually plenty unless the action is violent
 With lots of light, go with 1/3200 or 1/4000 sec
 Usually acceptable: 1/1600 or 1/1250 sec



Birds moving slowly (as when preening, walking, swimming)

Ideal: 1/2000, 1/1600, 1/1250, or 1/1000 sec
 Usually acceptable: 1/800, 1/640, 1/500, or 1/400 sec will often be sufficient.
 Usually risky: 1/320 to 1/250 sec (You might get one or two sharp ones in a series)



All images
 © Chuck Pine

Bridging the Gap

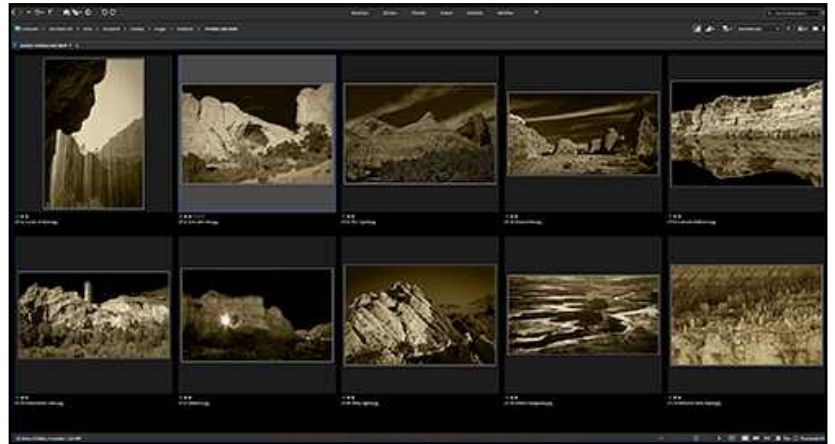
by Helen & Chuck Pine

A discussion arose at the March YEP (Year-End Project) meeting on how to best present one's images at the April meeting. Helen suggested using the Adobe Bridge program. (It is included for free with any Photoshop subscription or you can download it from the Adobe website.)



When you open Bridge it is usually in what is called the **Filmstrip** workspace.

(see the top image on the right) This is the way we use Bridge at our Club meetings for our monthly competitions, theme nights, and just about everything else.



For working on your portfolio, you'll probably want to switch to the **Light Table** workspace. (see the bottom image on the right) In the **Menu Bar**, go to... **Window > Workspace > Light Table**



To change the size of the images, slide the circle to the left (smaller) or right (larger).

To change the position of any one of the images, click on it (it will become highlighted with a blue box) and drag it left or right, up or down. A blue line will appear to indicate the new position.

To open any of the images so you can make changes to it in Photoshop, double click on that image.

Quotable Quotes

It's amazing how photography can capture just a split second of something exquisite. ~ Kiera Cass

The camera is much more than a recording device, it is a medium via which messages reach us from another world. ~ Orson Welles

Your photography is a record of your living, for anyone who really sees. ~ Paul Strand

A portrait is not made in the camera but on either side of it. ~ Edward Steichen

Camera Enemies

Your camera is a device that allows you to capture great moments. And since you spent your hard earned money to buy it, you need to protect it at all costs. Having a camera bag or casing is a basic rule. But what many camera owners forget are the other enemies of their photographic marvel. These can be found just about anywhere—the reason why you need to be aware of them. It's your responsibility, as well, to know how to avoid these elements to save the life of your camera...



Oils

Did you know that your sunscreen and insect repellent can actually harm your camera? It's true. These products are oily and can affect the delicate parts of your unit. If possible, never let the parts of your body that have these lotions touch your camera. Wash your hands before holding the camera so you can freely enjoy shooting. In case you forgot and you touched the camera, make sure to wipe the grease off right away.



Sand

Keep your camera away from the sand. Sand has very tiny particles that can scratch and damage the delicate mechanics inside your camera. So if you need to bring your camera to the beach or the park, be sure to put your camera inside a sealable bag when not in use. You can also bring along a toothbrush or extra cloth that you can use to wipe away sand that comes in contact with your camera or lenses.



Salt

Another danger of being at the beach is the risk of exposing your camera to salt. Salt can cause corrosion. To protect your camera, wipe it clean after using. If you're using a DSLR or mirrorless body, use a protective filter such as a UV or skylight. Remember, as well to avoid opening your camera to change batteries, lenses, or memory cards when in salty places.



Water

While you're near water, be mindful about water that could get into your gadget. Keep in mind that moisture can damage your camera, so after you arrive home, wipe it clean and make sure that it's dry.

Using silica gel packs will also help keep your camera dry while inside its bag. (They also will be helpful when there are sudden changes in the temperature which can cause condensation.)



Other things harmful to your camera that you need to avoid are dust, bumps, drops, and of course, thieves.



Where to Go

Sunrise, Sunset

Although it happens twice a day, more often than not the natural phenomenon of the rising and setting sun is overlooked. However, these events command a lot of attention at national parks, where perhaps an extraordinary landscape or a unique feature emphasizes this and extraordinary and beautiful event.



Joshua Tree National Park



Acadia National Park



Canaveral National Seashore



Badlands National Park



Arches National Park



Saguaro National Park

Park West has traveled to all of these national parks,... and more.

PhotoDiva

PhotoDiva is an AI portrait editing app that will give you beautiful images quickly by using its one-click effects. It is available only for Windows computers. (A stripped-down version of the tool, with many of the key features, is also available for the iPhone.) Mac users,... who knows? What can it do to improve your portraits? Here are a few of its features...

- change colors
- enhance facial features
- remove blemishes
- apply natural-looking makeup
- swap backgrounds
- and more



Best of all, *PhotoDiva* is **free!** There is an upgrade available to *PhotoDiva Pro* that adds even more features for a buy-once-keep-forever fee of \$42 (but at the time of this writing it's going for just under \$30).

The range of the tools and the quality of the features pales in comparison to something like Adobe Photoshop, but the added convenience and

streamlined ease-of-use mean that you can give this a shot and likely not be disappointed.



Blackmagic

Smartphone cameras have come a long way, especially on iPhones, where the latest models boast relatively high-end photo and video capture technology. But, they're still not at the same level as professional, Hollywood-grade digital cinema cameras.

Blackmagic Camera aims to change that! This iOS app (which is also available on Android) offers pro-level manual controls and numerous features that will turn you into a Cecil B. It's designed to help users make

more of their smartphone cameras and capture superior quality content than they could with the built-in camera app. (While a default smartphone camera app simply has a few buttons for zooming in and switching modes, this one introduces dozens of options to adjust the kind of content you capture.)

One of the best things about the Blackmagic Camera app—it's free to download, install, and use this as much as you like, with no hidden charges and no monthly or annual fees.



Smartphone Night Mode



This explanation comes from <www.picturecorrect.com>

Quotable Quotes

Photography has been my way of bearing witness to the joy I find in seeing the extraordinary in ordinary. ~ Harold Feinstein

The art of photography is all about directing the attention of the viewer. ~ Steven Pinker

My camera is my passport. ~ Steve McCurry

Telephoto Compression

When you photograph a scene with a long lens—200mm or more—distant objects appear larger relative to foreground subjects. This makes elements that are physically far apart—mountains, buildings, trees, or people—appear stacked tightly together in the image. This results in a scene with reduced apparent depth and stronger layering, often making landscapes look more dramatic or portraits more visually clean.



This effect isn't technically caused by the lens itself, but by the distance you must stand from the subject when using a telephoto lens. When you move farther away, the difference in distance between foreground and background becomes relatively smaller. The reduced difference makes far elements appear closer together.

You can use this telephoto compression intentionally for several creative effects:

- **Landscape photography:** Layers of mountains appear stacked, emphasizing atmospheric depth.

[continued on next page]

AF: Single vs. Wide

Your camera has several autofocus modes. Two of the most common are single-point AF and wide-area AF.



Single-Point AF allows you to manually select one specific focus point within the frame. The camera will only attempt to focus on whatever is directly under that point. In older cameras, this single point was at the center of the viewfinder. Nowadays, you have choices. Some of the advantages of single-point AF are...

- Precise control over what the camera focuses on
- Ideal for isolating a subject in cluttered scenes
- Reduces the risk of the camera focusing on the wrong object
- Works well for portraits, architecture details, and street photography



Wide-Area AF allows the camera to evaluate many focus points across the frame and decide where to focus automatically. Modern cameras often combine this mode with subject detection or eye-tracking, which can make it extremely effective for many kinds of shooting. Some of the advantages of wide-area AF are...

- Faster for unpredictable or moving subjects
- Useful when shooting quickly or reacting to fleeting moments
- Works well with modern face and eye detection systems

Telephoto Compression

[continued]

- **Portraits:** Background elements look larger and softer, creating pleasing subject isolation.
- **Street photography:** Crowds and architectural elements appear packed, adding visual intensity.
- **Wildlife photography:** Distant scenery feels closer to the animal, creating a more immersive composition.

To experiment with the effect, try photographing the same subject with a wide lens (shorter than 50mm) and then a telephoto lens longer than (200mm)—a zoom lens will work for this—while maintaining similar framing by changing your distance. You'll notice how the telephoto shot makes the background feel dramatically closer.



Old and Young

An exhibit at the Clamp Gallery features the work of Arlene Gottfried. She had been a speaker and judge at Park West.

When Arlene passed away in 2017 she left a huge archive of her street photography. In her Westbeth studio, decades of work were stored in archival portfolio boxes. One was



simply labeled “Young & Old.” The photographs found inside were portraits of children and people of advanced years—sometimes together in the

same frame. But they also reflected Gottfried’s curiosity about specific individuals and their embodiment of youthfulness and maturity. This show is drawn from those archives.

The Clamp Gallery is located on the ground floor at 247 West 29th Street. Check it out at www.clampart.com

The show runs through May 2nd.

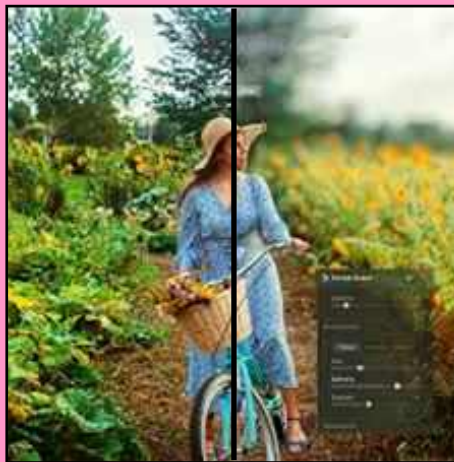
New in Neo

Skylum recently updated its Luminar Neo image editor to version 1.27. It boasts new tools for photographers.

One of the additions is *Bokeh AI* which is useful for things like close-ups, still life scenes, flowers, and many other subjects where you want stronger subject separation without relying entirely on what you shot in-camera.

Portrait editing also gets a meaningful boost. *Face AI* now includes *Dark Circles Removal*, which helps clean up tired-looking under-eye shadows quickly. *Skin AI* has been expanded with more targeted controls, such as *Face Skin Smoothing*, *Body Smoothing*, *Shine Removal*, and the all new *Blemish Removal* tool.

Another improvement is *Mask Feather*, which softens



mask edges for smoother blending. While it’s not the flashiest feature in the Neo update, it can make edits look more polished and natural—particularly when you apply selective adjustments.

Overall, this is a solid update for photographers who want faster edits, cleaner portraits, and better-looking results without getting a more complicated workflow.



Where to Go

Europe by Rail

In Europe, the journey can be just as eye-opening as the destination, thanks to a vast rail network that makes hopping from one breathtaking scene to the next a breeze. Add to that charming retro trains you'll want to ride again and again, UNESCO-listed wonders visible right from your window, and dramatic landscapes for days, and you get why train travel here isn't just convenient—it's unforgettable.

Here are seven of the most awe-inspiring, immersive trips you can take by rail, and all great photo ops...



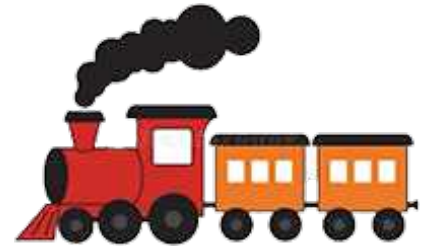
Belgrade-to-Bar Railway
Serbia and Montenegro
2 hours



Linha do Douro
Portugal
3 hours and 20 minutes



ÖBB Railjet
Germany, Austria, and Italy
5 hours and 30 minutes



The Bernina Express
Switzerland and Italy
4 hours



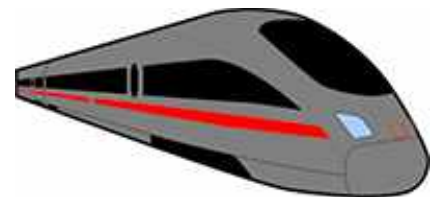
Bergensbanen
Norway
6 hours and 30 minutes



West Highland Line
Scotland
5 hours and 30 minutes



TGV Duplex
France and Spain
6 hours and 45 minutes



The Art of Cropping

by Michael Iannuzzi

Competition judges have often provided critiques that relate to cropping, so a brief review on cropping in post processing is provided.

Cropping is a composition tool that permits creative expression and can help clarify the message by giving greater visual weight to the subject. Cropping, by changing the perspective, can direct the viewer where to look.

Consider all of the possible reasons for cropping:

- Create balance
- Bring the subject closer to the viewer



- Emphasize leading lines
- Eliminate distractions
- Eliminate blank dead space
- Simplify the scene
- Give the subject more breathing room
- Change in the aspect ratio

When cropping, it's helpful to consider these issues:

- Is there too much sky?
- Is the foreground too large?

- Are there any high contrast areas or intense colors that are directing the viewers eye away from the subject that can be cropped out?
- Is there enough room in front of the subject when/if motion is implied?

With each crop ask yourself is the message becoming stronger. Also recheck horizon lines. An additional approach is to look at the image upside down and ask where do your eyes go. Do they go to the subject or to a distraction?

Finally, avoid too much cropping that increases noise and decreases pixels and detail resolution.

Diffraction

Diffraction, in photography, is a physical property of light. It is the bending and spreading of light waves as they pass through a narrow opening. This causes fine detail to blur. Diffraction usually occurs at apertures of f-16, f-22 and smaller.

It isn't caused by your lens being bad. It isn't a focusing mistake. It's simply a limitation of optics. The sharpest/most expensive lenses are affected by this phenomenon.

We all know that smaller apertures are a good thing because they increase depth of field. But, there is a

tradeoff between depth of field and image softness caused by diffraction.

Here's what typically happens as you stop down:

- *f*-2.8 – 4: shallow depth of field (good bokeh)
- *f*-5.6 – 8: peak sharpness for many lenses
- *i*11: still very sharp with increased depth of field
- *f*-16: diffraction begins softening fine detail

- *f*-22: noticeable softness across the frame

High-resolution sensors make this more noticeable because they capture such extremely fine detail.

The goal is to find the optimal aperture where you gain enough depth of field without introducing too much diffraction. For most lenses and modern cameras, that sweet spot usually falls between *f*-8 and *f*-11.



Photo Shorts

Instant Film Camera



The *Fujifilm Instax Mini 13 Instant Film Camera* has easy-to-use controls and produces credit-card-sized photos fast. Ideal for portraits and selfies. The flash lets you shoot in low light. It is powered by two (included) AA batteries and comes in five colors: Frost Blue(shown), Candy Pink, Clay White, Dreamy Purple, and Lagoon Green—each for only \$93.95.

Ultra-Wide Prime



This ultra-wide/ultra-fast prime lens, the *Sigma 15mm f-1.4 DC Contemporary*, has an especially portable design and a huge field of view. Ideal for landscapes, astrophotography, interiors, and/or architecture applications, it is a maximalist lens with a minimalist form factor. It comes in mounts for Canon RF, Fujifilm X, and Sony E bodies—all for only \$579.

Zoom for Portraits



Establishing itself as a go-to everyday zoom, the *Tamron 35-100mm f-2.8 Di III VXD Lens* not only covers the popular portrait focal lengths, but maintains a bright *f-2.8* lens opening across it's range. It employs a quiet motor to ensure quick and precise autofocusing. Coming soon in the following mounts—Sony E (\$899) and Nikon Z (\$929).



Wonder 2

Topaz Labs has introduced a major update to *Topaz Photo* (formerly *Topaz Photo AI*) with a new model called *Wonder 2*—a system that can *denoise, sharpen, and upscale* images in a single step.

Traditionally, you had to apply noise reduction, sharpening, and upscaling separately, adjusting sliders and fine-tuning settings along the way. *Wonder 2* changes that process.

Instead of multiple tools and manual adjustments, the model automatically analyzes the image and performs three enhancements all at once:

- **Noise reduction** – Cleans up high-ISO noise and grain
- **Sharpening** – Restores lost detail and edge clarity
- **Upscaling** – Increases resolution while preserving detail

Perhaps the most interesting part is that there are no sliders or tuning controls required. The AI model determines the optimal enhancement automatically based on the image content.

For photographers who want quick results without spending time experimenting with settings, this approach can dramatically speed up your editing.

Using Your Camera

by Chuck Pine

Shooting City Skylines



It may seem counterintuitive, but the best way to get a great image of a city is to actually leave it. Don't be afraid to travel outside the city to find the best vantage points.



If the city you're shooting is surrounded by hills—climb. Check out the Jersey Palisades, especially Hamilton Park in Weehawken or the stretch just north of the GW Bridge. Cityscapes tend to be huge. Instead of using your wide-angle lens (which distorts the image) take a several images and stitch them together to create a panorama.



If the city is on a river or lake, get on a boat. Check out the Staten Island Ferry, the Circle Line, or any of the water taxis.



Use a small aperture ($f-8$ or $f-11$, for example) to assure that everything is included within the lens' depth-of-field.



The best time to shoot is the golden hour, or better yet, wait for the blue hour (neither is really an hour long) when the sky will still have a hint of brightness and the city will have begun lighting up.

Lightning Photography Tips



- Use long shutter speeds
Lightning is unpredictable; it is difficult to make good images tripping the shutter when you see a flash. Try a speed of 15 or 30 seconds.
- Use a tripod
With long shutter speeds this is a must. Don't forget the remote release or use the self-timer.
- Include a foreground—
Although the main focus should be on the sky, you should have something interesting in the frame to give your photo scale.
- Use manual focus.
Instead of your camera hunting for focus when taking every shot, set a suitable manual focus and leave your camera there.
- Consider stacking software
Use stacking software to combine multiple images into one.



Photo Shopping

by Chuck Pine

AI Object Removal Tools

If you've ever done street photography, landscape photography, or just about any kind of photography that's not in a controlled setting, like a studio, you know how difficult it is to get a shot without someone or something in the image that you don't want. Using AI Object Removal Tools, you can easily get rid of these unwanted objects.

Here's a list of some of the best ones out there with their pros and cons...



Photoshop (by Adobe)

Pros

- Easy to use
- Versatile
- Amazing results
- Fast
- Distraction removal feature

Cons

- Requires Adobe subscription
- May require additional credits

Lightroom (by Adobe)

Pros

- Fast
- Accurate results
- Versatile
- Batch editing available

Cons

- Requires Adobe subscription
- May require extra credits
- Disappointing Detect Object feature

GenErase (in Luminar Neo)

Pros

- Consistent results
- Easy to use
- Non-destructive
- Unlimited use

Cons

- Slow
- No variations



Clean Up (in Apple's Photo)

Pros

- Easy to use
- Accurate results
- Fast
- Free

Cons

- No variations
- Only for Mac



PhotoShpping

by Chuck Pine

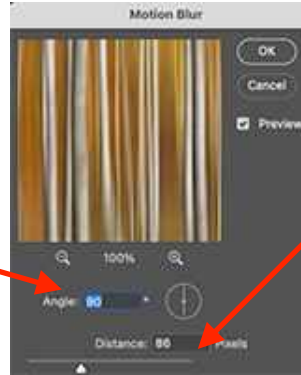
Motion Blur

Open an image in Lightroom, Adobe Camera RAW, or any software of your choosing and process it normally. Open the processed image in Photoshop.



Go to **Filter > Blur > Motion Blur**.

When the **Dialog Box** opens, set the **Angle** to **0°** for a horizontal image (landscape) or **90°** for a vertical image such as trees).



Move the **Distance Slider** to the right until you like what you see.

Once you've got the technique down pat, experiment with different angles and distances.

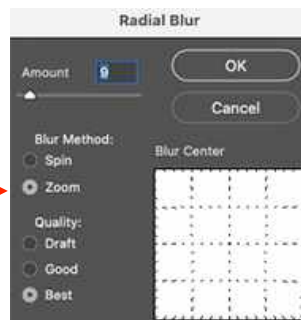
Radial Blur

Open an image in Lightroom, Adobe Camera RAW, or any software of your choosing and process it normally. Open the image in Photoshop.



Go to **Filter > Blur > Radial Blur**.

When the **Dialog Box** opens, set the **Blur Method** to **Zoom** and the **Quality** to **Best**.



Move the **Amount Slider** to the right until you like what you see.

You can also try setting the **Blur Method** to **Spin** for a different effect.

Click **OK**.

This Just In

Artemis II is a ten-day lunar flyby mission that launched on April Fools Day. With a crew of four astronauts, it is the first crewed flight into space since Apollo 17 in 1972.

During the mission, Victor Glover became the first African American, Christina Koch the first woman, Jeremy Hansen the first non-U.S. citizen, and commander Reid Wiseman the oldest person to travel near the Moon. During their lunar flyby, the crew set the record for human distance from Earth, 252,756 miles (406,771 km), breaking Apollo 13's record of 248,655 miles (400,171 km).

These are a few of the images sent back by the crew—some of which were shot on their very own iPhones. Wow!!!

We've come a long way, baby!



Thanks to Julie Wosk (our very own *space lady*) for sending this item in to *Photo Notes*.



Money for the Club

Jorn Vangoidtsenhoven, owner and operator of *Vango Wildlife and Nature Photography*, is offering \$500 (up to \$2,000) to the Club for every PWCC member who joins his 7-day *New Mexico Winter Photography Field Trip* or any other of his workshops.

On the above-mentioned trip you will photograph the thousands of Sandhill cranes and Snow geese that winter in world famous Bosque del Apache as well as the unworldly landscapes of White Sands National Park and nearby lava fields.



Info on Jorn's upcoming trips:

<www.vangophotos.com/new-mexico-2027>

B & H Event Space

The B&H Photo Event Space offers an array of free seminars and inspirational lectures by talented pros from around the world. Register online to make sure your spot is reserved.



Mon, Apr 13
Photographing with Intention
Speaker: Derek Fahsbender



Wed, Apr 15
Midtown West Photowalk
Speaker: Tony Gale



Tue, Apr 21
Pinhole Photography
Speaker: Heather Palecek



Wed, Apr 22
Birds in Flight
Speaker: Melissa Groo



Thu, Apr 23
Manhattan Bridge Photowalk
Speaker: Tony Gale



Thu, Apr 23
Classic Portraits
Speaker: Derek Fahsbender



Mon, May 4
Printing your Work
Speaker: Derek Fahsbender

The “Decisive Moment”

Henri Cartier-Bresson was walking near a train station in Paris when he noticed puddles behind a fence. Nothing was happening. But something about the reflections and the geometry of the scene caught his eye, so he waited. Eventually, a man hurried into view and leapt across the water to avoid getting his shoes wet. Cartier-Bresson raised his camera and pressed the shutter button at precisely that instant.

He didn't fire a burst of shots, and there was no second chance. This was the photo captured...



That single frame—with the man suspended mid-air above the puddle—became one of the most famous photos ever taken and helped define what he later called “the decisive moment.”

It wasn't luck—it was his patience and the ability to react when something fleeting took place.

Life on Earth

The Society of International Nature and Wildlife Photographers (SINWP) is pleased to introduce the new *Life on Earth Photography Competition*—a celebration of the beauty, diversity, and fragility of the natural world.

This competition invites photographers of all levels to capture images that highlight wildlife, landscapes, and the relationship between people and nature.



Just £1 per image.
Enter as many images as you like!
<www.sinwp.com/liv-earth26>



Information is now available and registration is open for the 87th Annual PSA Photo Festival being held in Las Vegas on September 13th-19th, 2026. <www.hpsaphotofestival.org>



Come join **National Parks at Night** in Four Corners (located in the Southwestern U.S. where four states—Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, and Utah—intersect) for this in-person event devoted to astro-landscape photographers, scientists, artists and activists who wish to enjoy and preserve the night skies. The conference allows you to work with peers to craft images and to hone techniques for responsibly studying and documenting the quiet beauty of dark skies. The event will run May 14th-17th.

For more information, visit <[Nightscaper Photo Conference](http://www.nightscaper.com)>

AIPAD Returns!

Like the swallows to San Juan Capistrano, the AIPAD Show returns to the Park Avenue Armory April 22-26.

Technically it's called the Association of International Photography Art Dealers' Photography Show, (AIPAD for short). If you've never been, you should definitely make time to go. Unlike virtually all the other photography trade shows, which are all about selling you stuff, *this* show is about photography—just



photography; from the beautiful to the challenging, inspiring photography of every genre, historical and contemporary, exhibited by the galleries that represent the photographers.

Tickets are now on sale [here on the AIPAD website](http://www.aipad.com).



Sierra Photo Meetings 2025-2026

The New York City Sierra Club Photo Committee has meetings scheduled for the 2025-2026 year. Some of the meetings will be held using the Zoom Software and some will be in-person at the School for Visual Arts (SVA)—136 West 21st Street, Room 418F. Tickets for all events have to be purchased in advance on [Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com). An \$8 donation is suggested.

| | | |
|-------|----------|--------|
| Tues. | 9/16/25 | SVA |
| Tues. | 10/14/25 | Zoom |
| Tues. | 11/11/25 | Hybrid |
| Tues. | 12/16/25 | Zoom * |
| Tues. | 1/20/26 | Hybrid |
| Tues. | 2/17/26 | Zoom |
| Tues. | 3/17/26 | Hybrid |
| Tues. | 4/14/26 | Zoom |
| Tues. | 5/19/26 | Hybrid |
| Tues. | 6/16/26 | Zoom * |

SVA = in-person only

Zoom = online only

Hybrid = in-person and online

* members night

KelbyOne Lightroom CONFERENCE

★★★★★ | 📺 | 📱 | 🎨

ONLINE | MAY 4-6, 2026



Scott Kelby



Lisa Carney



Glyn Dewis



Ramin Kazemi



Erik Kuna



Sean McCormack



Ian Plant



Serge Ramelli



Gilmar Smith



Tracy Sweeney



Rob Sylvan



Terry White

<www.kelbyoneline.com/lightroom-conference-2026>

iPhone Danger!

There is a new malware program out there that attacks older iPhones still running iOS 18 or an earlier version. It's called DarkSword!

Historically, iPhones have been very difficult to hack, but DarkSword can compromise any iPhone not running the latest iOS 26.4 (which fixes the problem).

You should **update** as soon as possible.





SUSPECT PHOTOGRAPHY PRESENTS

PAVEMENT

STREET PHOTOGRAPHY SYMPOSIUM

PAVEMENT
The International Street
Photography
Symposium is coming to
the street photography
capital of the world,
NYC

June 4 - 7 2026

[LEARN MORE](#)

NANPA Photo Tours

The North American Nature Photographers Association has a great assortment of photo tours planned for the rest of the year. Here are a few of them you might consider...

Great Smoky Mountains
May 4th - 8th
with Coby Cooper and Tom Haxby

Coastal Oregon
May 14th - 17th
with Brenda Tharp and Jed Manwaring

Kenai Peninsula
July 1st - 9th
with Dawn Wilson

Aurora Photography in Yellowknife
September 7th - 14th
with Rod Barbee

Fall in the Adirondacks
September 27th - 30th
with Chris Murray

Ozarks Landscapes and Colors
October 25th - 29th
with Russell Graves

Head on over to www.nanpa.org for additional tours, more information, and/or to register for the NANPA tours.





Sri Lanka Through Your Lens A Wildlife & Cultural Photography Journey

Sri Lanka is one of Asia’s most rewarding wildlife photography destinations, offering an extraordinary diversity of species within a compact and accessible landscape. From elusive leopards and shaggy-coated sloth bears to large elephant herds and prolific birdlife, the island presents consistent opportunities for dynamic, behavior-driven photography. Varied habitats—from dense forest to open wetlands—create constantly changing scenes, making Sri Lanka a place where both iconic sightings and nuanced, storytelling images are possible.

March 21 - April 3, 2027

[Info & Registration](#)



**THE 2026 PHOTO REVIEW
41ST ANNUAL
INTERNATIONAL
PHOTOGRAPHY
COMPETITION**

JUROR:
SARAH KENNEL, AARON SISKIND CURATOR OF
PHOTOGRAPHY, VIRGINIA MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

DEADLINE:
MAY 20, 2026

SUBMIT TO:
PHOTOREVIEW.ORG

PRIZES
EXHIBITION • PUBLICATION • GEAR



Save the Date!

NYMACC'S Field Trip to Beacon, NY

Saturday, May 30, 2026 9am-1pm

Rain date Saturday June 6, 2026

The New York Metro Area Camera Council's field to Beacon, NY will cover architecture, street photography, Hudson River waterfront, parks, and more. Photographers of every level, camera brand, gear, including tripods and eternal curiosity are welcome.



Registration does not include food but lunch is planned.
Reminder: Club membership in NYMACC includes all members of that club.
NYMACC Member: \$10; non-NYMACC Member: \$15

Registration is limited to 30, first come, first served.
All who pre-register will be notified about a week prior with payment information to open registration.
All paid registrants will receive the full itinerary a few days prior to the trip.

PRE-REGISTER

to hold your place. Payment is not due until you receive the final flyer.

NYMACC Supporters TBA in final flyer

Gallery News & Thoughts

by Ann Broder

PWCC long-time member, Remy Deyglun, shared news about a gallery show at the prestigious Leica Gallery in the West Village (406 West 13th Street), in the meatpacking district. The photographs are from his latest book, *Phil Penman-Street Scenes*. It includes candid, evocative moments of urban life.

The exhibit opened on April 2nd and runs through May 17th. The gallery is open Monday—Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday, from noon to 5 p.m.

<[Leica Gallery Meatpacking](#)>

<www.philpenman.com>



Schedule of Activities

Park West Camera Club meets just about every Monday night (with some exceptions for a few holidays and a shortened summer schedule).

Due to the coronavirus pandemic and its aftermath, Club activities will be virtual using the Zoom software. Members will be emailed all the information necessary to log in and participate. Guests may request log-in details by emailing Park West Camera Club at pwccny@gmail.com

Check the Club's Website www.parkwestcameraclub.org for late-breaking details on PWCC meetings and other Club activities.

All Club meetings begin at 6:30 p.m. You may log on using the Zoom software 15 minutes earlier.

Listed on the following pages are **PWCC activities** marked with an asterisk (*). Also listed are **Photo Ops** (opportunities to take photos) and **Photo Events** (of interest to photographers).



** Monday, April 13
Before and After
Color to Black-and-White

We are always asking other photographers, "How did you do that?" Tonight we will get the answers as Club members present their *Before and After* images of the same shot—this time with a catch. The original image must have been shot in color and then converted to B&W. Members will then explain what they did and why they did it. Join us as we learn from each other. The entry deadline is Saturday, April 11th.



* Tuesday, April 14
Print Salon

The Club's Print Salon will be meeting this afternoon. See the article on page 20 of this issue of *Photo Notes* for detailed info on the group and how to get in touch with Betsy Currier if you'd like to participate.



© Gillian Overholser

Tuesday, April 14th.
Photo Event
Sierra Photo Meeting
The New York City Sierra Club's Photo Committee will be holding its meeting tonight. The guest is Gillian Overholser. She is a wildlife photographer passionate about capturing the moments that reveal an animal's inner world—the tenderness of a mother with young, the stillness of the creatures at rest, the strength and beauty of movement, or the quiet dignity of a portrait. Her photographs have been recognized by the Audubon Society, locally and nationally, and have won international competitions. They have also been published in newspapers, journals, and newsletters, and now reach an audience of more than 25,000 followers across social media. Learn more about Gillian at her website www.gillianoverholser.com This is a Zoom-only meeting. Tickets must be purchased online at www.eventbrite.com prior to tonight's meeting. An \$8 donation is suggested.



Tuesday, April 14
NYMACC Meeting

The New York Metro Area Camera Council is an umbrella organization for camera clubs in the New York City area. PWCC is a founding member of the council. As a Club member, you are invited to attend tonight's meeting to see what's going on around town. The meeting starts at 7 p.m. If you would like to join the meeting contact NYMACC <deborah.NYMACC@gmail.com> for the Zoom link.



© Natan Dvir

* Monday, April 20
Guest Speaker

Tonight's guest photographer is Natan Dvir. He is an artist, editorial photographer and educator. He received his MBA from Tel Aviv University and his MFA in Photography from the School of Visual Arts. After establishing the Part-Time Programs at the International Center of Photography (where he was Associate Director), Natan joined the Houston

Center for Photography as Director of Education. His personal work focuses on the human aspects of cultural, social, and political issues. His projects were exhibited in many solo and group shows in museums, galleries, and festivals in the United States, Europe, South America, Asia, Australia, and Israel including among others the Triennial of Photography Hamburg and the Museum of Fine Arts Houston. Check out Natan at <www.natandvir.com> to see more of his images. Tonight's curtain raiser is Club member and infrared photographer

extraordinaire Dinorah Capota. She will be sharing images from Maine.

DON'T MISS THE DEADLINE!

* Wednesday, April 22
PDI Workshop Deadline
The deadline for submitting images for this Thursday's PDI (projected digital image) workshop is tonight at 11 p.m. Members may submit one or two images for a critique and

suggestions for improvement. See page 7 of this issue of *Photo Notes* for sizing and labeling directions. Some images will be worked on with a variety of photo processing software. Only images from the first 10 members to send them in will be reviewed at this workshop. Other Club members may join the workshop to view and comment on the images and demonstrations. Send your images only to this address <pwccny@gmail.com>



Wednesday, April 22
Photo Op
Earth Day

Earth Day is a yearly global event (since 1970) with more than 1 billion people in 193 countries now participating. It is the largest civic-focused day of action in the world. All this in celebration our planet, Earth. Check out the website <www.earthday.org> for more info. Try putting together a small portfolio of your little corner (?) of the universe that helps the cause. You may send up to five of your images for a future issue of *Photo Notes* to <pwccny@aol.com>





* Wednesday, April 22
YEP Meeting

Club members participating in our Year End Project will be meeting tonight on Zoom. You will be sent the sign-on link at 6:15 p.m. that evening and the meeting will begin promptly at 6:30. p.m. The YEP triumvirate (Ann, Christine, and Marlene) will be sending an email to all participants regarding this meeting's agenda. Meanwhile, check out the article on page 28 of this issue of *Photo Notes*.



* Thursday, April 23
PDI Workshop

This Zoom meeting will begin at 7 p.m. The link for this monthly workshop will be sent to the membership in the Club's *Weekly Reminder* on the previous Friday.



Sunday, April 26
Photo Op
Greek Parade

The Greek Independence Day Parade has been held on Fifth Avenue since 1951. The event celebrates their freedom from the Ottoman Empire in 1821. The parade kicks off at 1 p.m. moving up Fifth Avenue from 64th Street to 79th Street. Get there early to stake out a good spot from which to shoot.



* Monday, April 27
You Be the Judge 11
At the Museum

The score sheets have been collected and tallied. The winners have been declared. Are you among them? Join us at this Zoom meeting to find out the answers to all these probing questions. The theme for this edition of You Be the Judge is "At the Museum"—interpret it as you will. Entries for this in-house competition were due on March 27th.



* Monday, April 27
Image Deadline
May Competition

Please note that PDI entries are due by midnight tonight for next week's competition. This is an *open* competition—no theme. See page 6 of this issue of *Photo Notes* on how to prepare your images. More information is available in our *Competition Manual*. Please send your two images to pwcccompetition@yahoo.com If you want confirmation that your images were received, add this email address to your email hfklein@mindspring.com

* Monday, May 4
Monthly Competition #8

This, the eighth and final monthly competition this year, is an open competition—anything goes. Full rules for the competition are available on the Club website and in our *Competition Manual*. All PDI entries must be submitted by midnight one week prior to today (April 27th). You may enter up to two PDIs. Tonight's judge is Peter C Brandt. He began photography with his father's Kodak twin-lens box camera at age 14. Peter started in architectural photography in



© Peter C. Brandt



© Flint Gennari

1964. Four years later, Peter apprenticed in consumer advertising photography at Penthouse Studios. In three years he started his own studio doing advertising, beauty and fashion. After 34 years, Peter returned to the world of doing architectural shooting and his personal work in the area of architectural art. You can view more of his professional and personal work at his website <www.peterbrandt.com> You may enter one or two PDIs at <pwcccompetition@yahoo.com> Entries must be submitted by Monday, April 27th.

Tuesday, May 5

Photo Op

Cinco de Mayo

The Mariachi bands will be playing, the margaritas will be flowing, the and the vibes will be at an all time high! One of NYC's largest Cinco De Mayo celebrations is held in the Stone Street Historic District, a



pedestrian-only street located between 85 Broad Street and Hanover Square down in the Financial District in Lower Manhattan. To get there by subway, take the #2 or #3 train to Wall Street, the #4 or #5 train to Bowling Green, or the J or Z train to Broad Street. The party runs from noon to 10 in the evening. For safety's sake, leave your tripod at home and use a high ISO.

* Monday, May 11

Guest Speaker

Tonight's guest photographer is Flint Gennari—a pioneering New York City graffiti artist, photographer, and musician who began his multitalented career in 1966. Flint is known

for his early tagging and documentation of the NYC graffiti scene, He is one of the pivotal figures in the evolution of this American art form. The curtain raiser for tonight is long-time Park West member, and former ExCom member, Natalie Manzano. Her program is titled *Amazing Azerbaijan*.



* Tuesday, May 12

Print Salon

The Club's Print Salon will be holding its meeting today to discuss all things printing. See the article on page 29 of this issue of *Photo Notes* for more info on the group and how to get in touch with Betsy Currier if you'd like to participate.

NYMACC

Tuesday, May 12
NYMACC Meeting

The New York Metro Area Camera Council is an umbrella organization for camera clubs in the metro area. Park West is one of the founding member of NYMACC. All Club members are invited to attend tonight's meeting to see what's going on around town. If you'd like to join the meeting send an email <deborah.NYMACC@gmail.com> for the Zoom link. The meeting starts at 7 p.m.



Saturday & Sunday, May 16-17
Photo Op

International Food Festival

The 9th Avenue Food Festival is one of the City's largest and oldest traditions—a celebration of cultural diversity through food. The fair offers both traditional festival treats like funnel cakes, mozzarepas, zeppolis, pickles, egg creams, and lots more fabulous food you won't see at other food festivals. Here you'll also find Argentinian, Brazilian, Cajun,

Cuban, Dominican, Ethiopian, Greek, Haitian, Moroccan, Irish, Ukrainian, and many other cuisines. But not only the food at the festival is international! There are also several stages with music and performances like German folk dancers, Celtic performers, Egyptian belly dancers, and Arabian scarf dancers. The Ninth Avenue Food Festival is held on 9th Avenue (where else?) from 42nd Street all the way up to 57th Street. The hours are 10 a.m. until 6 p.m.



* Monday, May 18
Business Meeting #4

Tonight is the fourth and final business meeting of the 2025-2026 Club year. There's always plenty of excitement in the air. Some of the items on tonight's agenda will include electing next year's ExCom, finalizing the Club's Otto Litzel Year-End Dinner, a discussion on the Club experiment with themed competitions including their future at Park West, and much more. This is *your* Club—come to this meeting to participate in its future.



* Monday, May 18
Image Deadline
Year-End Competition

Please note that PDI entries are due by midnight tonight for our year-end competition. You may submit up to four PDIs—but there are special rules of entry. See the article on page 27 of this issue of *Photo Notes* for what and how to submit your images. More information is available in our *Competition Manual*. Please send your four images to

<pwcccompetition@yahoo.com>
If you want confirmation that your images were received, add this email address to your email <hfklein@mindspring.com> The actual competition will be held at the end of May and then replayed for the entire Club, and the winning images revealed, on Monday night, June 1st.

Tuesday, May 19
Photo Event
Sierra Photo Meeting

The New York City Sierra Club's photography group will be holding its meeting tonight. The guest presenter is Douglas Dubler. He is a fashion and beauty photographer who seamlessly joins his craft and



© Douglas Dubler

creativity to produce some of the most memorable images in editorial, advertising and fine art photography. Over the last six decades Douglas has done everything from underwater photography in the Virgin Islands to botanicals and flowers in the studio. Learn more about him at his website <www.douglasdubler3.com> This is a hybrid meeting—both on Zoom and in-person at the School of Visual Arts (136 West 21st Street, Room 418F). All tickets must be purchased online at <www.eventbrite.com> prior to tonight’s meeting. An \$8 donation is suggested.

Image Deadline

* Wednesday, May 20
Image Deadline
PDI Workshop

The deadline for submitting images for tomorrow’s PDI (projected digital image) workshop is tonight at 11 p.m. Members may submit one or two images for a critique and suggestions for improvement. See page 7 of this issue of *Photo Notes* for sizing and labeling

directions. Some images will be worked on with a variety of photo processing software. Only images from the first 10 members to send them in will be reviewed at this workshop. Other Club members may join the workshop to view and comment on the images and demonstrations. Send your images only to this website <pwccny@gmail.com> * Thursday, May 21



PDI Workshop

This Zoom meeting will begin at 7 p.m. The link for this monthly workshop will be sent to the membership in the Club’s *Weekly Reminder* on the previous Friday.



Sunday, May 24
Photo Op
Loisaida Festival

Loisaida is a Spanglish word—a phonetic pronunciation of “Lower EastSide.” It is used to describe the Puerto Rican and Latino area in Manhattan that

stretches from 5th Street to 12th Street on Avenue C (aka Loisaida Avenue). The festival celebrates the arts, the culture, and the people of the neighborhood. It runs, more or less, from noon to 5 p.m.



Monday, May 25
Photo Op—Memorial Day Parades

Memorial Day isn’t just an excuse for springtime sales and a three-day weekend—it is, first and foremost, a time to honor those Americans who’ve served the United States in times of war. The City honors its fallen heroes with parades all over the five boroughs. The Little Neck–Douglaston parade in Queens is reputedly the largest. You can also follow Brooklyn’s Memorial Day Parade (150+ years old!), which begins at 87th Street and Third Avenue. And, in the borough of Manhattan, head uptown for a smaller parade in Inwood, which begins at the corner of Dyckman Street and Broadway. You can heck out <www.nyc.gov/events> for a full list of happenings.

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