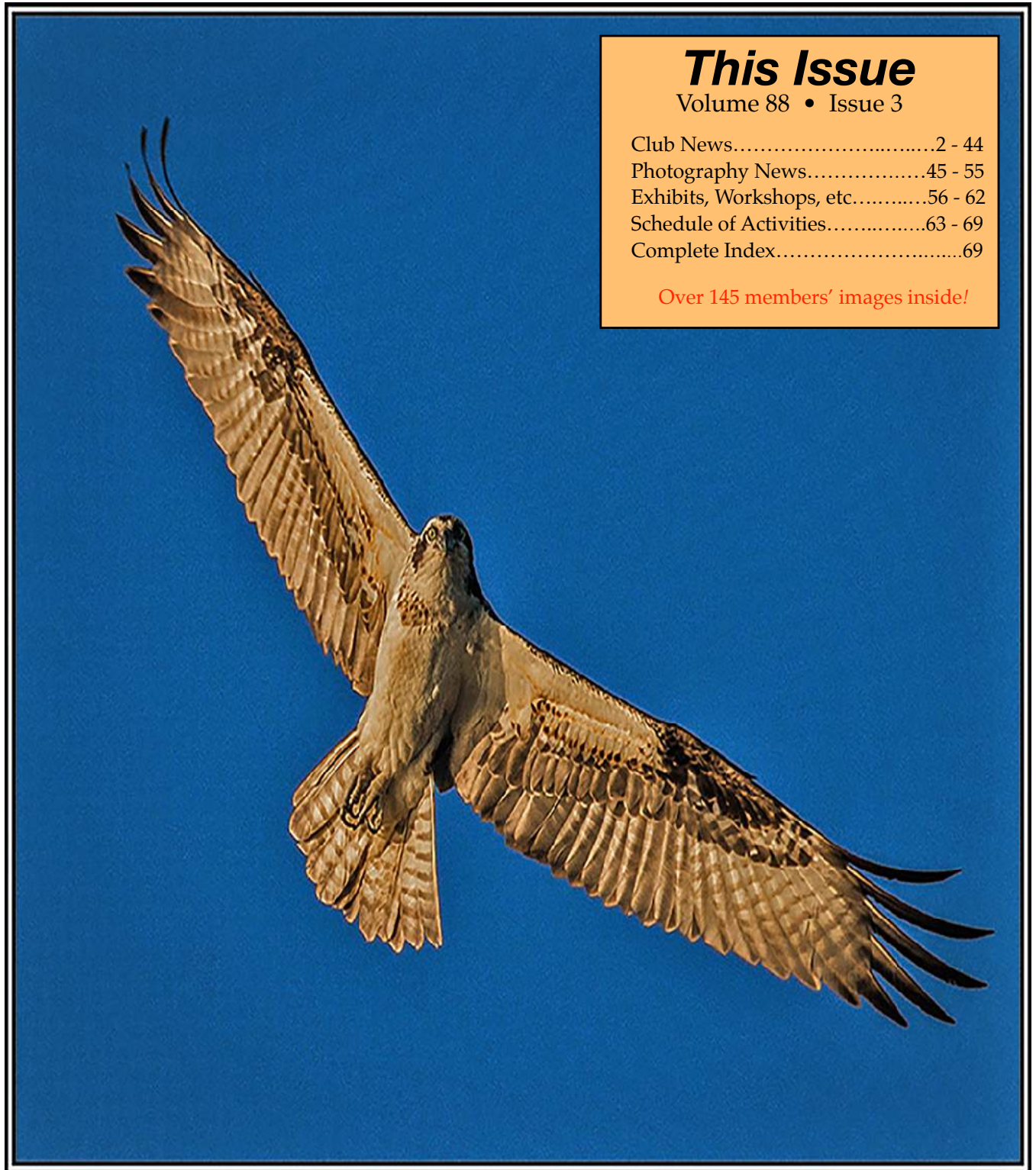


November 2025



This Issue

Volume 88 • Issue 3

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Over 145 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.

Contact Information

Website

www.parkwestcameraclub.org

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PWCC

680 West End Avenue, #5D

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Cover Photo
Banking Osprey
© 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	Vacancy
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
Gallery
House

President's Message

Post-Processing with AI

Let's face it—it's impossible to work on an image in any up-to-date software program without coming across some form of artificial intelligence. In fact, it's almost impossible to do anything in the digital world without something AI popping up on the screen.

The questions for us at Park West Camera Club are simply, *how much AI is acceptable in our monthly competitions?* And, *how much is too much?*

For the last few years we've seen the growth of artificial intelligence and *Photo Notes* has tried to keep up with it by publishing articles in just about every issue. For example, see Bill Apple's article, *The Man with One Hand*, later on in this issue. He calls AI "cheating"!

Of course, I have my own opinions about AI at the Club. Basically, I break it down into two situations—competitions and everything else.

For the latter, I refer to the old Broadway show, *Anything Goes*. By this I mean that for theme nights, portfolios, and all other uses, creating and/or improving an image using AI is just fine.

But for the former (our monthly competitions) we need to have some rules. We want to judge the talents and capabilities of our members,



© Larry Rubin

not the programmers at Adobe, Topaz, Skylum, DxO, or any other software manufacturer.

We already have a rule that all the pixels in an image must be created by the member. You can composite two photos—but both have to be shot by you. You can replace a dull sky in a photo, but the new clouds must be your image. And the list goes on and on.

You can use *Content-Aware Fill* for example because the computer is copying pixels from one part of the image to an adjacent area. The same goes for *Generative Fill*, except when you type in something like "add a black cat lapping from a puddle." These are not *your* pixels!

What do you think?

I'd like to form an ad hoc committee to come up with the Club's By-Laws as well as the Competition Manual.

Let's discuss this topic at November's business meeting later this month.

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: Will Aimesbury, Evelyne Appel, Bill Apple, Bruce Byers, Betsy Currier, Julie Foehrenbach, Pat Garbarini, Renée Harper, Hedy Klein, Ed Lee, Natalie Manzino, David Miller, Elena Pierpont, Chuck Pine, Helen Pine, and Michael Schleiff

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

All uncredited images are royalty-free clip art or otherwise believed to be in the public domain.

Credited images remain the sole property of their copyright holders—all rights reserved.

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—Macro and Close-Up
- 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*
- 9 Before & After *
- 16 Guest Speaker/President Day
- 23 Interpretations *
- 26 PDI Workshop *

Mar

- 2 Competition #6 *
- 9 Workshop—Manipulation
- 16 Guest Speaker
- 23 Theme Night—Macro and Close-Up *
- 26 PDI Workshop *
- 30 Business Meeting #3

Apr

- 6 (Themed) Competition #7 *
- 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
- 14 ExpVis 32—Intro
- 18 Business Meeting #4
- 25 No Meeting—Memorial Day
- 28 ExpVis 32—Assignment #1

Jun

- 1 Year End Competition *
- 4 ExpVis 32—Assignment #2
- 8 Otto Litzel Memorial Dinner
- 11 ExpVis 32—Assignment #3
- 15 ExCom Meeting
- 18 ExpVis 32—Assignment #4
- 22 Year-Long Project
- 25 ExpVis 32—Term Project
- 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

Still a PWCC Member?

If you haven't paid your dues yet, the answer to the above question is "No"!

Club membership runs from when you pay your dues through the end of September each year. You are then given a one month grace period before you are removed from our membership list, you stop receiving the monthly issue of *Photo Notes*, and you lose access to all Club benefits.

If you have decided not to rejoin us, we'll miss you! If you change your mind you can always contact us and come back into the fold. If not, but you'd still like to get *Photo Notes* delivered to your inbox, just send us an email and ask.

Wildlife Shooting Tips

Whether you're shooting lions in Africa, penguins in the Falkland Islands, or birds in Central Park—photographing wildlife is no easy task. Spread out through this issue of *Photo Notes* are some tips that may make the hunt for your prey a bit easier.

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!



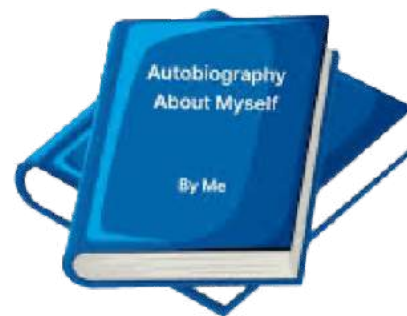
Please submit anywhere from a half dozen to ten files on a concise theme.

Images must be processed as if they were to be entered into a competition. [See page 8 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

<bklynnnat@hotmail.com>

Wildlife Shooting Tips

Know the species that you want to photograph. For example, you wouldn't look for a polar bear in the wilds of Africa or Australia.



A longer focal length lens is usually needed to get in close without scaring or annoying the subject as well as blurring the background. In most cases, the longer the better—but you don't have to break the piggy bank.

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>
Mini Portfolios	Nov. 8th	Nov. 10th
Competition #3	Nov. 24th	Dec. 1st
Competition #4	Dec. 29th	Jan. 5th
You Be the Judge	Dec. 12th	Jan. 12th
Competition #5	Jan. 26th	Feb. 2nd

Club Participation Nites

This coming year there will be 11 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.

• December 8th—*Theme Night: Landscapes* Deserts, mountains, coastlines and more all fit the definition of landscapes. Use your imagination to interpret this theme as you see fit. You may submit up to 10 images. Entry deadline: December 6th.



• 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: Macro and Close-Up* Following our December 8th workshop, we'll look at images you've taken in the world of small things—bugs, stamps, flowers, you name it. You may submit up to 10 images. Entry deadline: March 21st.

• April 13th—*Before and After: Color to Black & White* For this assignment you will share one of your favorite fully 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. Entry deadlines are the previous day.

Owl at the Grove by Jill Greiss

Images of the Month

November 2025

PDI-of-the-Month

Wings Abstract by Albin Davis

Honors

Farmers Market, Punta Gorda by Will Aimesbury

Stack of Books by Bill Apple

Haunted House by Madeleine Barbara

Washington Square Denizen by Richard Borowsky

Strange Light by Raylie Dunkel

Lifeguards at Sunset by Sonia Durante

Raccoon 5 a.m. by Julie Foehrenbach

Piano Player by Florence Forman

Ghost Power by Richard Gold

Grand Entrance by Paul Grebanier

Review by Paul Grebanier

Pine Barrens Sunrise by Jill Greiss

Red Light Graffiti Room by Renée Harper

Bow by Michael Iannuzzi

Building by Michael Iannuzzi

Beetle Breaststroke by Hedy Klein

Sparks Are Flying by Hedy Klein

Sigh by Charles Levin

All Aboard by Natalie Manzino

Masts by Natalie Manzino

Sunrise by David Miller

Pedicab Shadow by Chuck Pine

Sushi by Alec Rill

No Kings by Larry Sapadin

Dancing Wave by Dudley Slater

Peak Paradise by Dudley Slater

Squirrel by Puneet Sood

Looking Up by Janet Susin

Stay Up Straight by Laura Toledo

The Girls in White by Laura Toledo

Hoop Dreams by Peggy Winkelman

Wonder by Peggy Winkelman

Cumulative Points

(Through November 2025)

by Hedy Klein

Jill Greiss	40	Evelyn Appel	24
Paul Grebanier	38	Bill Apple	24
Charles Levin	38	Larry Rubin	24
Natalie Manzino	38	Alice Somma	24
Florence Forman	36	Ann Broder	22
Michael Schleiff	36	Elayne Dix	22
Peggy Winkelman	34	Barry Fahrer	22
Raylie Dunkel	32	Larry Sapadin	22
Sonia Durante	32	Madeleine Barbara	20
Michael Iannuzzi	32	Albyn Davis	20
Chuck Pine	32	Richard Gold	20
Alec Rill	32	Bruce Byers	18
Dudley Slater	32	Doris King	16
Will Aimesbury	30	Dottie Mills	16
Jay Bitkower	30	Julie Wosk	16
Nicole Dosso	30	Richard Borowsky	14
Renée Harper	30	Betsy Currier	14
Puneet Sood	30	Julie Foehrenbach	14
Hedy Klein	28	George Corbin	12
Allan Lauer	28	Remy Deyglun	12
David Miller	28	Christine Doyle	12
Elena Pierpont	28	Catherine Smith	12
Janet Susin	28	Karen Corrigan	8
Marlene Schonbrun	26	Jeff Langford	8
Laura Toledo	26	Ruth Yashpan	4

Thank you to this month's judge, Marie Altenburg, for her excellent commentary, constructive criticism, and consistent scoring.

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

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



Image of the Month
Wings Abstract
 © Albyn Davis

Continued on next page...



'A' with Honors
The Girls in White
© Laura Toledo



'A' with Honors
Wonder
© Peggy Winkelman



'A' with Honors
Squirrel
© Puneet Sood



'A' with Honors
Peak Paradise
© Dudley Slater



'A' with Honors
Looking Up
© Janet Susin

Continued on next page...



'A' with Honors
Sushi
© Alec Rill



'A' with Honors
No Kings
© Larry Sapadin



'A' with Honors
Masts
© Natalie Manzino



'A' with Honors
Sunrise
© David Miller



'A' with Honors
Sigh
© Charles Levin



Continued on next page...



'A' with Honors
Building
© Michael Iannuzzi



'A' with Honors
Sparks Are Flying
© Hedy Klein



'A' with Honors
Red Light Graffiti Room
© Renée Harper



'A' with Honors
Review
© Paul Grebanier



'A' with Honors
Pine Berrens Sunrise
© Jill Greiss

Continued on next page...



'A' with Honors
Piano Player
© Florence Forman



'A' with Honors
Lifeguards at Sunset
© Sonia Durante



'A' with Honors
Strange Light
© Raylie Dunkel



'A' with Honors
Washington Square Denizen
© Richard Borowsky



'A' with Honors
Haunted House
© Madeleine Barbara

Continued on next page...



'A' with Honors
Stay Up Straight
© Laura Toledo



'A' with Honors
Dancing Wave
© Dudley Slater



'A' with Honors
Pedicab Shadow
© Chuck Pine



'A' with Honors
Beetle Breaststroke
© Hedy Klein



'A' with Honors
All Aboard
© Natalie Manzino

Continued on next page...



'A' with Honors
Owl at the Grove
© Jill Greiss



'A' with Honors
Bow
© Michael Iannuzzi



'A' with Honors
Grand Entrance
© Paul Grebanier



'A' with Honors
Ghost Power
© Richard Gold



'A' with Honors
Raccoon 5 a.m.
© Julie Foehrenbach

Continued on next page...



'A' with Honors
Stack of Books
© Bill Apple



'A' with Honors
Farmers Market, Punta Gorda
© Will Aimesbury



'A'
Thirsty
© Michael Schleiff



'A'
Where's My Barber
© Chuck Pine



'A'
Looking Across
© Elena Pierpont



'A'
Mountain Veil
© Alice Somma



'A'
Puffin Family
© Marlene Schonbrun

Continued on next page...



'A'
Yvonne
© Dorothy Mills



'A'
Thinking
© Allan Lauer



'A'
Reflections
© Ann Broder



'A'
Photo Time
© Remy Deyglun



'A'
Here's Looking at You
© Jay Bitkower



'A'
Winged Hand
© Nicole Dosso

Continued on next page...



'A'
White Tulip
© Evelyne Appel



'A'
Sunning Herself
© Bill Apple



'A'
Sunny Bus Ride
© Will Aimesbury



'A'
Australian Moll
© Julie Wosk



'A'
City Aglow
© Alice Somma

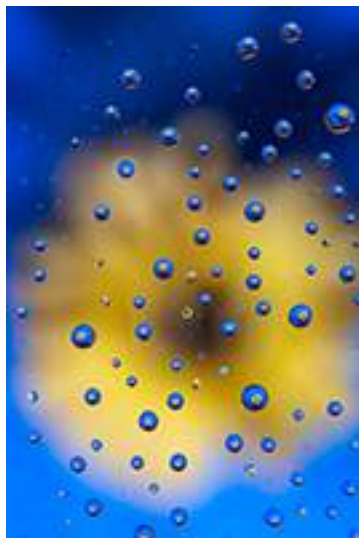


'A'
Feeding Time
© Janet Susin



'A'
Barrel Race
© Catherine Smith

Continued on next page...



'A'
Bubbles
© Marlene Schonbrun



'A'
Down the Hall
© Michael Schleiff



'A'
Carnegie Hall
© Larry Sapadin



'A'
Take the M Train
© Larry Rubin



'A'
Faces
© Alec Rill



'A'
A Crocheted Umbrella
© Elena Pierpont



'A'
Snow
© David Miller

Continued on next page...



'A'
Tame Your Dragon
© Allan Lauer



'A'
Santee Alley Rooftop View
© Charles Levin



'A'
Come In
© Raylie Dunkel



'A'
Astor Place
© Barry Fahrner



'A'
Birds of a Feather Together
© Renée Harper



'A'
Sudsy
© Doris King



'A'
Bride on Beach
© Florence Forman

Continued on next page...



'A'
Harlem
© Nicole Dosso



'A'
Gold N Shadow
© Elayne Dix



'A'
On Green Leaf
© Evelyne Appel



'A'
Heirloom Peppers
© Jay Bitkower



'A'
Petals
© Ann Broder

Are you Infected?

Are you among the many of us who use a smartphone as a camera? Judging from the comments at competitions, theme nights, and other gatherings—odds are that you do.

They take wonderful photos, equal in many ways to a DSLR or mirrorless camera. But along with their portability advantage, they

can have some issues of which you must be aware.

Because your phone is a “connected” device, it can fall prey to viruses and malware. Here are some signs that could indicate you’re infected...

- *Slow Connections*
apps that carry viruses use a lot of internet bandwidth to operate. If connection speeds slow down to almost zero BPS, that can be a sign.



- *Using Too Much Data*
even if you have an unlimited data plan, always keep an eye on your data usage for sudden spikes.
- *Your Battery Life Is Bad*
spyware and the like use a lot of battery power. If you go from a full charge lasting all day to having to charge your phone every few hours, your phone might be infected with a virus.

Print Salon

by Betsy Currier

The next meeting of the PWCC Print Salon will be at 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, November 11th. We will demonstrate the preparation of a print for a dedicated printer.



At future meetings we will discuss the question of whether it's necessary to have your own dedicated photo printer. We will also discuss the process to prepare a print for professional printing at any one of the many printing companies in New York City (or elsewhere).

If you would like to attend the next Print Salon, please contact me (Betsy Currier) at [<edcurrier7@gmail.com>](mailto:edcurrier7@gmail.com) to reserve your spot and get the location of the meeting.



Hope to see you soon.



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.

Wildlife Shooting Tips

Practice setting and using your camera's various combinations of focusing points so you can *always* get the eyes in sharp focus.



Other parts of the subject can be out of focus or blurred. But unless you're going for a special effect, the eyes should always be sharp and clear.

Tripod Give-a-way

Club member Will Aimesbury is giving away a *Vanguard VEO 204AB Aluminum Tripod* with *TBH-50 Ball Head*.

The tripod has a capacity of 8.8 pounds and when fully extended is 53.1." When folded it is a compact 15.5." Rubber feet provide superb stability on slippery surfaces. The 4 leg sections are held in place with adjustable flip locks. The ball head has a large locking knob, degree markings for panning, and an Arca-type quick release plate. A carrying case is also included to protect the tripod when not in use.



Did we say *FREE*?

The original price was somewhere over \$100.

If you're interested, contact Will. You can find his email and phone number on the Club's membership list and in the "members only" section on our website.

This is on "the early bird gets the worm" basis.

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	— —
March	George Corbin
April	Dinorah Capota
May	Natalie Manzino



November Birthdays

by Natalie Manzino

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

Sonia Durante
Jill Greiss
Susan Hoehn
Allan Lauer
Charles Levin
Harvey Weinstein

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
Membership	Helen
Photo Notes	Chuck
Print Salon	Betsy
Program	Christine
Website	Michael
Workshop	Joe

Inactive Committees

Archive
Field Trip
Gallery
House
Social



Photo Notes Deadlines

Issue	Deadline
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)

Wildlife Shooting Tips

Know your lens(es). What aperture will give you the desired depth of field at any distance from the subject?



Rapidly making this decision is crucial because wildlife doesn't sit around waiting for you to take the shot.



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 mid-September 2025, we had 796 postings and 546 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, Photo-shop, 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 mrschleiff@gmail.com

Thank you and enjoy the PWCC forums.

Flying Away

by Evelyne Appel

Many of us have dreamed of flying away, or at least of being Peter Pan for a day. We think that flying is the symbol of one's freedom.



In Alaska, I saw for the first time, the bald eagle flying. I was mesmerized. He was so majestic. He deserves to be our national bird.



When I was still a "new photographer," a novice, we went to Jones Beach in June, to photograph egrets that were nesting in a cluster of pine trees. I tried to take a picture of an egret in flight, but the bird was so white, I overexposed it. I kept the slide, and in the fall, I intentionally overexposed



reflections in a pond. I put the two slides together (montage). Voila! I had my picture.

In a Japanese garden in Florida, snake birds or anhingas were courting. They are so graceful, so elegant.



In the Galapagos Islands the frigate bird inflates his red pouch to attract a mate. He finds her and wants to start a family. So, he searches for material to build their nest and then comes home.



The poet James Montgomery wrote, "Birds, the free tenants of land, air, and oceans. Their forms, all symmetry, their motion, grace; in plumage, delicate and beautiful."

All images
© Evelyne Appel

Through the Lens of Light

A Photographer's Journey to Lancaster

by Renée Yolanda Harper

The hum of the bus becomes a gentle overture—a traveling meditation of light and shadow. As I make the three-hour journey to Lancaster, PA, camera in hand and an open heart, I'm reminded that photography is not just a way to see the world, but a way to honor it. Every image is a small act of gratitude, an offering of attention to details.

Before the trip began, thoughtful preparation sets the tone. With limited space on the bus, I pack light: one camera body, a versatile zoom lens, extra batteries, memory cards, and a microfiber cloth. A polarizing filter helps manage reflections from glass or water—the tools of mindfulness in a visual form. I also make sure my cellphone is charged for back up phone images.

Comfort and respect guide my wardrobe: neutral layers for changing light and modest attire suitable for rural and traditional communities. I dress not just to move easily but to blend into the rhythm of the day—to be present without disturbing the moment.

Before departure, I photograph the bus—its number, its reflection, the faces of anticipation. These are not just reference images; they are the

prologue of a story—the beginning of belonging.



Capturing the Road

The road to Lancaster offers fleeting gifts: dawn's first glow over open fields, the swirl of horses tilling the land, the play of shadow on barn wood. I keep my shutter fast (1/500 of a second or higher) to freeze the motion of the landscapes rushing by, but my mind stays slow—patient, observant.

Our early departure and evening return allow for a rare treat: photographing both the sunrise and sunset, bookends of gold and amber that speak of renewal and reflection. These are the images that often find their way into our Club competitions—studies of color and contrast born of stillness and timing.

All Images
© Renée Yolanda Harper

Inside the bus, laughter and conversation become the heartbeat of the journey. I photograph hands gesturing mid-story, eyes gazing through windows, the gentle rhythm of community. Each image reminds me that photography is relational—we don't just take pictures of people; we create them with people.



When we arrive, Lancaster reveals itself like a living canvas—quilted fields, horses eating grass in the pasture, children enjoying nature, scenes from a Mennonite Life Museum exhibit, Amish homes, roads and postboxes all lined with color. An Amish woman walking at the outlet mall, I find beauty not only in the countryside but also the location of the theatre and the beauty that production of Noah brings.

Lunch in Lancaster is its own meditation: warm bread, homemade soups, and laughter shared around the table.



Food photography here isn't about composition alone—it's about connection. It's about remembering that nourishment, like light, is both physical and spiritual.



Reflections and Respect

As photographers, we are guests — in places, in cultures, in moments of sacred simplicity. Amish communities, for instance, value privacy and humility; we honor that by focusing on landscapes, structures, and silhouettes rather than faces. Sometimes,

what we don't photograph speaks just as powerfully.

Keep every photo. Even the ones that seem imperfect—blurred, tilted, underexposed—may hold hidden emotion. Post-processing allows us to rediscover what our hearts noticed before our eyes did. Photography is, in many ways, a practice of teshuvah —the returning to the essence of what really matters.



Dress for freedom, move with respect, and leave space for the unexpected. The most meaningful images are rarely planned — they appear like blessings, waiting for the observant heart.

As I journey back, the bus grows quiet. My camera holds not only images but echoes — the laughter of friends, the warmth of shared bread, the serenity of open fields.

Photography, I realize, is more than a record of what we've seen. It's an act of reverence. Each image says, 'You

were here. You looked with care. You helped the world shine a little brighter.' And that — in its own way — is a form of light work.



My Photography Reflections: Ethical and Artistic Practice

- I always dress comfortably and modestly, respecting the traditions and values of the places that I visit.
- I retain every frame—imperfection often hides the heart of the story.
- Seek emotion as much as composition. A photo that moves someone is a photo that matters.
- Be mindful when photographing religious or private communities—focus on texture, light, and atmosphere.
- Remember that photography is a form of gratitude—a way of bearing witness to the world's quiet brilliance.



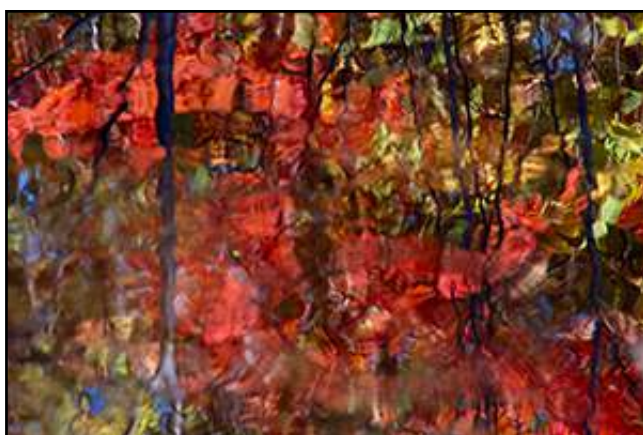
PDI Workshop

The Club's PDI (Projected Digital Image) Workshop was held on Thursday night, October 23rd. Eight Park West members each submitted two images for comments and possible alterations using Photoshop software. Over 20 PWCCers were in the gallery and took part by offering comments and suggestions for improving the photos.

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



Evelyne Appel wanted to know how she could improve her image, *On the Snow*. We suggested using the **Crop Tool** (set to **Content Aware Fill**). We cropped in from the right and extended the image on the left.



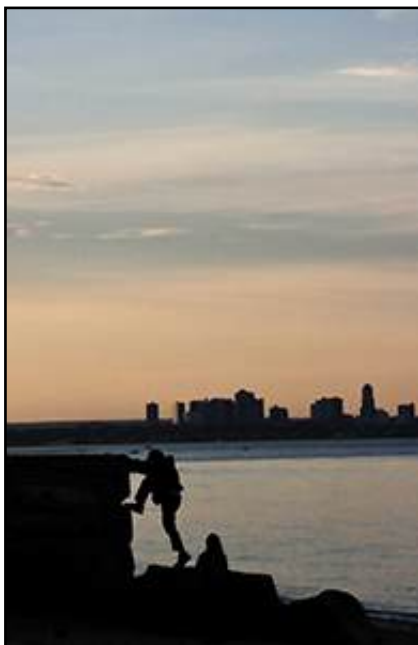
We all liked the colors of *Fall Reflection* by Catherine Smith. We decided that it would be a stronger image if we used the Crop Tool and eliminated the left quarter of the original image.



Paul Grebanier's shot of plastic bags snagged by the barbed wire fence was lovely. The only improvements we could make were to Crop slightly from the top and bottom.



The members present liked *Rainbow at Seljtalandfoss* by Chuck Pine but thought it could use some cropping to draw the viewer's attention more to the waterfall and rainbows. We also used the **Spot Healing Brush** to remove the people.



Janet Susin showed two versions of *Rock Climbing*. She liked this one. We thought there was too much sky. The **Crop Tool** was used to make the image less atmospheric.



Such Joy was shot by Marlene Schonbrun at the Club's model shoot this summer. The father and son were great! But the background was somewhat distracting. We first used the **Remove Background Tool** to get rid of all the distractions. We then created a new layer (**Layer > New**) and filled it with an appropriate image. To finish the job we dragged the new layer to the bottom of the stack of layers.



Helen Pine's *Mother's Day Tulips* was near-perfect. We just used the **Spot Healing Brush** to get rid of some reflections in the vase.

Bruce Byers shot this image on the Eiffel Tower. We were disturbed by the fence poles that were not vertical. We created a new layer (**Layer > Duplicate Layer**) and then used **Edit > Transform > Distort** to straighten them out.



Guest Speaker

Park West's October guest photographer was Anastasia Tompkins (who also was this month's competition judge). She shared with us many of her images that reinforced the comments she made about our images two weeks earlier.



All Images
© Anastasia Tompkins



Mission [not] Impossible

Do you remember the old TV series (1966-1973), or the more recent eight movies by the same name, *Mission Impossible*?

Your mission, should you decide to accept it, is to shoot the same scene in different kinds of conditions—midday sun, golden and blue hour,

overcast, drizzle, downpour, blizzard, whatever.

Specifically, explore the same outdoor spot from the same position (more or less) in different weather conditions and also at different times of the day.

When you've got a small portfolio of images that please you, send a half dozen or so to

be published in *Photo Notes*. Also include a paragraph or two with your thoughts about this assignment. What did you learn? How do your images differ? And the like.

There is no time limit on this mission. Send your images and write-up to [<pwccny@aol.com>](mailto:pwccny@aol.com)



Insurance

PSA (Photographic Society of America worldwide) is again offering insurance to photographers. Here's what we know so far...

FULLframe Insurance is a specialized coverage designed for photographers. They offer comprehensive coverage for cameras, lenses, computers, tripods, lighting gear, and other essential equipment.

Whether you're shooting in a studio, in nature, or traveling internationally, FULLframe helps protect your gear from risks like accidental damage and even general liability claims.

Photographers will need to provide a police report when making a claim. There is a \$250 deductible for any claim (including repairs).

FULLframe insurance can be purchased online with proof of insurance forms printed directly from their website.

Here is the link to get you started https://get.fullframeinsurance.com/ffi_combined_landing?page=business%20activities&step=1 You can also contact FULLframe through their PSA contact, Tyler Leptich, via phone at either (844) 520-6991 or (385) 323-3736.

Fare Increases

Starting January 1, 2026, the base fare for the subways, local buses, and Access-A-Ride will increase from \$2.90 to \$3. Fares for seniors, handicapped, etc. will go from \$1.45 to \$1.50. Express bus fare will increase from \$7 to \$7.25.

This is also the date at which your MetroCard will cease to be accepted. If you've got money left on your old card, use it up before the new year. You must have the new OMNY card from this date on.

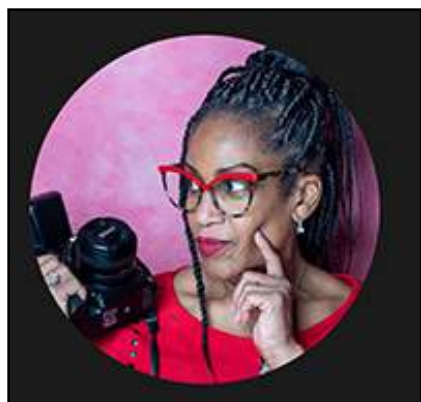
Aren't you glad we meet virtually using Zoom software?



Member Bio

by Renée Yolanda Harper

I'm a visual poet as well as a photographer dedicated to capturing the soul of community through the lens. You may already know me. I serve on the *Photo Notes* committee for our club, where I've been a member for nearly a decade.



For me, photography is both an art and a service. I'm inspired by the simple and the powerful moments that define human connection—from the laughter of elders on Brooklyn stoops to the spirited stride of youth on Queens sidewalks. My work is rooted in a solid commitment to uplift some of the marginalized voices and reflect the lived beauty of New York's diverse neighborhoods, always weaving images that speak of resilience, belonging, and the quiet dignity of everyday life.

I also serve as the Speaker Coordinator for Professional Women Photographers (PWP). I was honored to contribute work to their 50th-anniversary

exhibition, *Past Present seen...*, where one of my images received the "People's Choice award."

My love for visual storytelling is fueled by a passion for travel. This year alone, I've visited 12 countries: Vietnam, Bangkok, South Africa, Botswana, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Kenya, Rwanda, Germany, Greece, Egypt, and Turkey!

Beyond my creative and spiritual pursuits, service is a core part of my life. I am a proud board member of the Laurelton Lions Club and currently serve as the Club administrator. In my professional life, I serve as the Executive Director for Field and Information Services for the New York City Public Schools (NYCPS), managing the life cycle of 80,000 NYCPS teachers. This is a role that adds a vital perspective to my



storytelling lens.

I believe that storytelling and service are inseparable



forces for change. Whether I'm mentoring young photographers, organizing community events, or presenting work in juried exhibitions, my focus remains the same: to see people fully, to celebrate stories generously, and to remind us all that



kindness matters.

I'm honored to be part of the Park West Camera Club community. I've made many friends in this group, and I continue to treasure the opportunity to learn from and connect with this inspiring community of talented photographers.

All Images

© Renée Yolanda Harper

More Freebies

\$20 and up,... mostly up!
That's what I see just about everywhere I go. The movies, to a restaurant, everywhere. Prices are skyrocketing. It's good to know that there are some freebies (or almost free) left in the City. Here are a few of them, and all provide fodder for your camera...

- Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum (Pay what you wish, 4-5:30 p.m. on Mondays and Saturdays)
- The Frick Collection (Pay what you wish Wednesdays from 1:30-5:30 p.m.)
- Staten Island Zoo Free (Wednesdays after 2 p.m.)
- China Institute and Gallery (Free Thursdays and Fridays from 5-8 p.m.)
- Wave Hill (Free Thursdays)
- MoMA (Free Fridays for New York residents from 5:30-8:30 p.m. reservations)
- Neue Galerie New York (Free Fridays from 5-8 p.m.)
- The Noguchi Museum (First Fridays free; registrations highly recommended)
- New York Hall of Science (Free on Fridays from 2-5 p.m.; does not include mini golf and 3D shows)
- Whitney Museum of American Art (Free Fridays from 5-10 p.m., free second Sundays)

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.

By the time you read this we have just returned to Ayrshire. The reason being we are off on the 6th to visit our son in the U.S.A., firstly four days in New York and then ten days in Santa Monica. Had to stop off in NY so I can attend my first Zoom meeting on the same time line as them (Park West Camera Club). I will be earlier rather than later when in California.



Mother Teresa and Gandhi having a chat on the side of a building.



Last full day in New York so we had to walk the Highline. This is a disused above ground subway track and goes from roughly (and you New Yorkers don't tell me off) Chelsea all the way up to the Hudson Yards and is a horticultural delight.



Usual fast moving traffic in NYC, not.



Some great colour still in some of the plants but also autumn seed heads look great.

All Images
© David Miller

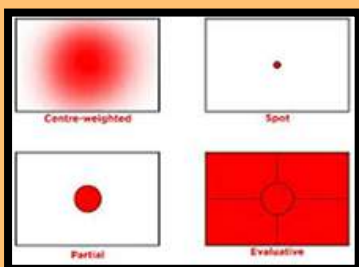


Park West is a member of NYMACC (New York Metro Area Camera Council, Inc.)—an umbrella group for camera clubs and photographers in the New York metropolitan area. Its last monthly meeting was held on October 14th. (Our Club was represented by Ed Lee at this meeting.)

The next NYMACC Zoom meeting is scheduled for the November 11th at 7 p.m. All Park West members are invited to attend to see what goes on in the group. If you would like to attend this Zoom event, write to this email for the link <deborah.NYMACC@gmail.com>

Wildlife Shooting Tips

Know the metering mode patterns of your camera. Dark subject, light subject? Dark background, light background?



Switching to the right pattern will assure you achieve a proper exposure.



Hill Street Gallery

The Hill Street Gallery, located at 65 Hill Street in the upstate town of Catskill, is owned and operated by Park West Camera Club member Bruce Byers.

Bruce was recently awarded a grant from Greene County to create a series of portraits of the people of Catskill. This ongoing project is currently underway.

Camera Odysseys is the arm of the gallery that deals with workshops. It was favorably written up in Adorama's blog. You can read all about it at <www.adorama.com/alc/bruce-byers-photography-workshop>

Bruce invites Club members to venture up to Catskill and get their portraits taken. Even though you are not from Catskill, the portraits would be taken in Catskill so I think that counts. As always the more the merrier and you never know what will end up in front of the camera.



Online Gallery
Workshops
Book sales
Instagram
Phone

<www.hillstreetgallery.com>
<www.cameraodysseys.com>
<www.brucebyers.com>
<[@hillstreetgallerycatskill](https://www.instagram.com/hillstreetgallerycatskill)>
(917) 992-1453



All Images
© Bruce Byers



NYMACC Meeting

by Ed Lee
NYMACC Liaison

October 14, 2025

NYMACC (New York Metro Area Camera Council), is composed of 13 neighboring camera clubs in the New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, and Pennsylvania area. It meets monthly via Zoom to discuss issues of importance which pertain to camera clubs. The clubs share resources such as offering members from other clubs admittance to their guest speakers and other meetings.

NYMACC is the outgrowth of the former Metropolitan Camera Club Council which flourished into the late 70s. They promoted independent and corporate camera clubs' activities in the NY metro area in various newspapers and media of that time.

Today, club representatives attend the monthly Zoom meetings and speak about their clubs and possible issues. One such club admitted that they have never exhibited their photographs at any venue. The other attending members offered club backgrounds and their history of club exhibits. I led off the discussion by speaking about the many shows that Park West had

prior to Covid-19 closings: the Manhattan Borough President's Office; Weill Cornell Hospital Library; Calumet Camera Store; Ryan Chelsea-Clinton Health Center; our 80th Anniversary Club Show at Soho Photo Gallery; and many others through the years. I also spoke about the organization and some of the methods we employed, especially using paid photograph "hangers."

All the other clubs had shows. They offered other practical suggestions and ideas for holding a successful show to promote the club and show off its members' work and possible sales. All of the ideas have been incorporated into the Minutes of the meeting.

I mentioned that post Covid-19 and meeting via Zoom, we had not had a club show in quite awhile but that individual members have staged successful shows of their own around the city.

- Member clubs are asked to send about 10 images from their membership for the NYMACC home page photo scroll. Send these to [<info@nymaccphoto.org>](mailto:info@nymaccphoto.org) NYMACC is always looking to update the photos. The scroll is updated as new images arrive.

- The "Member Offerings" link on the home page [<www.nymaccphoto.org/events>](http://www.nymaccphoto.org/events) has been created for members

to share their events (exhibits, courses, workshops, etc.). Please send information with a link as far in advance of the event/program as possible.

Wildlife Shooting Tips

Know the effects of shutter speed on your images.



Which ones will freeze the subject's motion?



Which ones will create an interesting and pleasing blur of the the motion?



(Note—speed of the motion, direction of the motion, and distance to the subject all play into this formula.)

Field Trip Recap

by Pat Garbarini
Field Trip Leader

New York Botanical Garden

Four of us met at the Mosholu Entrance to the New York (aka The Bronx) Botanical Garden—Peggy Winkelman, Richard Borowsky, JJ Auberage, and myself. First we walked to the Enid A. Haupt Conservatory to see the outdoor sunflowers and sculptures that were part of the Van Gogh exhibit.

The group then spent a lot of time with the beautiful Fall flowers in the Perennial Garden right in front of the Conservatory. We also walked to the Goldman Stone Mill on the property and along the Bronx River for a while.

The Fall foliage didn't offer too many brilliant colors—the color was late this year due to the low level of rainfall—but we had a brilliant blue sky above us and enjoyed the warm sunny day!



© Pat Garbarini



© Richard Borowsky



© Peggy Winkelman



© Peggy Winkelman



© JJ Auberage

Theme Night

Autumn & Halloween Photos

The Club's first theme night of the year was held on Monday, October 27th. Twenty one members participated with from one to 10 of their images to celebrate the season. Here are some of the photographs that were shared...



Halloween Nat
© Julie Wosk



Untitled
© Allan Lauer



Maple Leaf
© Evelyne Appel



On the Course
© Jill Greiss



Untitled
© Sonia Durante



Untitled
© Richard Gold



Statue and Tree
© Michael Iannuzzi



River Gary
© David Miller



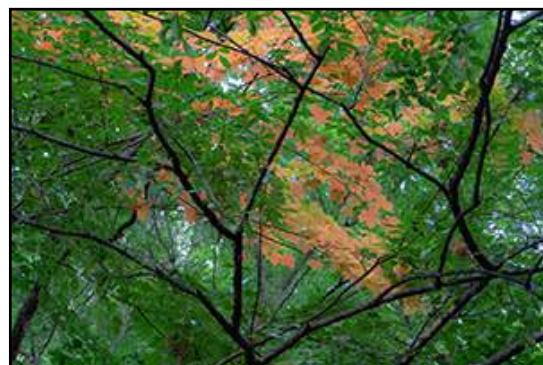
Untitled
© Janet Susin



Untitled
© Helen Pine



Untitled
© Paula Paterniti



Untitled
© Pat Garbarini



Untitled
© Raylie Dunkel



Untitled
© Pail Grebanier



Candy Corn
© Peggy Winkelman



The Hound of Washington Heights
© Betsy Currier



Pumpkin 2
© Mike Schleiff



Top Of Overlook Drive
© George Corbin



Palisades
© Elayne Dix



Untitled
© Bruce Byers



Burrowing Owl
© Chuck Pine

Halloween Parade

by Renée Y. Harper

*The Volunteer Marshal's
Advantage: A Field Guide to
Low-Light Parade Photography*

This year, I was granted a rare and thrilling perspective—volunteering as a marshal for the 52nd Annual Greenwich Village Halloween Parade. My pink shirt was more than a uniform; it was a “backstage pass to humanity in motion.” From that vantage point, I witnessed artistry, anticipation, and chaos merging into one vivid symphony before the parade ever stepped into the bright streetlights.

My assignment was at the very beginning, namely Spring Street, where floats lined up and performers rehearsed their personas. For nearly two hours before my official duties began, I moved through the maze of color and creativity, camera in hand, hunting for stories in between the beats of the drums.

In the swirl of activity, my bulky DSLR was impractical. I needed to move, pivot, and blend in. My compact yet powerful Lumix and the ever-reliable Samsung Galaxy S23 Ultra became my perfect companions—fast, flexible, and discreet enough to keep pace with the parade’s pulse.

As daylight slipped into the city’s electric dusk, every shot became a balancing act of



exposure and emotion. Parade light is unpredictable—part LED, part candle flame, all chaos. I let my ISO climb, proudly embraced the grain, and reminded myself that texture tells the truth.

My Recommended Low-Light Parade Settings:

- Aperture (f-stop): Wide open (f/1.8–f/4)
- Shutter Speed: 1/125s minimum to freeze motion
- ISO: Don’t fear 1600–3200+—grain beats blur
- File Format: Always shoot RAW for recovery and flexibility

Ultimately, the staging area was my studio. Performers, still half themselves and half their characters, revealed fleeting humanity beneath the masks. I sought moments of quiet before transformation—the Golden Goddess adjusting her crown beside a weary Thor, both luminous in

their costumes yet strikingly real in expressions.

With a wide aperture, I isolated my subjects, allowing Little Red Riding Hood, Diadelos Muertos, and Haunt Hochul to emerge from the chaos in crisp, dreamlike focus.

And of course, I turned the lens on myself—a quick self-portrait alongside my friend Mari, and others, each one swept into the Village’s creative current.



Continued on next page

As the parade rolled into night, the floats became moving lanterns, and I learned to shoot the light itself:

- **Find the Contrast:** Frame luminous elements—like the giant glowing pumpkin puppets—against the angular skyline. The darkness gives dimension; the light gives life.
- **The Lantern People:** Focus on the glow, not the figure. These beings of diffused radiance become ethereal when tightly framed against the night.

Serving as a volunteer marshal didn't limit my photography—it expanded my access and empathy. The best photographs weren't of the parade itself, but of the people preparing to shine. Traveling



light, observing deeply, and letting the city's rhythm guide my shutter, I came away with

images that capture not just spectacle, but soul.

Metadata

In photography, metadata refers to the information embedded within digital images that describe various aspects of the photo.

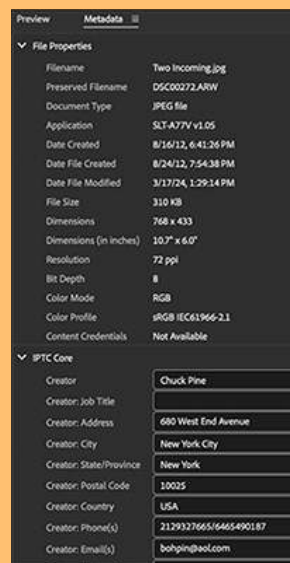
There are three types of metadata...

- **EXIF** (Exchangeable Image File Format)—is automatically generated by the camera when a photo is made. It includes information about the camera and lens, date and time the photo was shot,

camera settings (shutter speed, aperture, ISO, focal length, white balance, etc.), GPS info.

- **IPTC** (International Press Telecommunications Council)—is information you add to the image. It includes, descriptions (captions, keywords, titles, etc.), your name and contact details, and copyright information.
- **XMP** (Extensible Metadata Platform)—is automatically created and added by the software

you use to process your images. These are often called “sidecar,” “buddy,” or “connected” files.





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.

Wildlife Shooting Tips

Know your camera's several shooting modes. Burst mode (aka continuous shooting mode) might be best in order to capture moving subjects.



But the noise it makes might scare away the closer, non-moving wildlife.

The Man With One Hand

by Bill Apple



Some purists will consider Photoshop's "Generative Expand" as *cheating*. Which it is, of course. But this is the 21st century, so we use tools we now have.

Above, on the left is a grab shot I took this afternoon on the median at Broadway and 94th. An iPhone shot.

I liked the man's face (and his cigarette) so I *lied*. I used this line/*lie*, which came into my mind and which I have never used before, came instantly, like to a sociopath: "You look a lot like an uncle of mine. Do you mind if I take your picture?" Good line, no, if you get past the lying?

My charm and/or lie worked, and he let me. I rushed away, only later to see that I'd cut off his right hand. There was no time to be more deliberative or thoughtful on composition. I had already made a quick getaway.

Here, on the right, is how Photoshop's "Generative Expand" filled in the frame at left, from the Contextual Task Bar (it is under the interface's Windows menu, across the top of the screen).

He has a brand-new hand!

I looked at six alternative renderings all together, but this is the best, maybe because on this one Photoshop did

not attempt to construct fingers. Instead, it filled in a clenched fist. This is really quite good, better than I might have hoped for.

Ooh. I just noticed a handle from his walker, near his right arm. I'll eventually take that out, also with the AI. Trust me, you won't be able to tell. (To tell the truth, I never noticed the walker in the first place. A more head-on view, with the walker in the frame, might have made a good picture. But there was no time.)



Road Trips

The Great Northern is truly the most stunning, not to mention longest, of all the

great transcontinental road trip adventures.

Highlights include: Tumwater Canyon (WA),

Glacier National Park (MT), Lake Michigan (MI), and Acadia National Park (ME).



Goin' Phishing

There are so many scams out there that it's hard to know what's real and what's trying to steal your money and information.

Here are a few warnings...

- If you receive texts or emails warning you that your XYZ account is compromised or that you need to change your password, **do not** click any links in the email. This is how phishing schemes get your vital info. If you do click the link you end up on a page that looks real, you enter your email and password, and now the hackers have your login info. If you receive an email like this, go to <xyz.com> to log in, and update your password on the site that you know.
- QR code scams are on the rise! Avoid scanning any suspicious QR codes. One scam works by sending you a package without any sender information, other than a QR code. This asks the you to scan the code, which then leads to some website that looks legitimate but is actually malicious. The idea is that you will enter payment and/or other personal details to the site, allowing scammers to steal the information.



- Another QR code scam involves leaving posters in parking garages (and elsewhere) with a QR code, and a "pay here" sign that says you can pay for your parking by scanning this. Obviously, any money sent to that fraudulent site would be gone for good (and you'd still have to pay for your parking).

Modern technology can be a really great thing! But there are people out there who are trying to take advantage of the tech and of you,...

Caveat emptor.



What Makes a Good Photo?

- **Exposure** - Balanced light. Not too dark, not too bright. Details preserved in both highlights and shadows.
- **Color** - Natural and true to life. Not dull, muddy, or oversaturated.
- **Composition** - Your eye goes straight to the subject. No guessing what to look at.
- **Focus** - Sharp where it matters. Backgrounds that don't distract.
- **Camera effects** - Depth of field or motion that adds mood without feeling forced.
- **Story** - You can *feel* what the photographer wants you to understand. It says something to you.

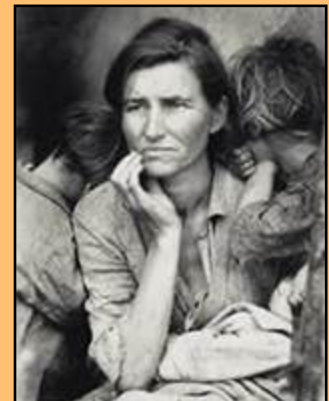


Image Noise

Noise in a photograph can be defined as “a random variation in an image signal.” Much too technical for you? Then think of noise as tiny dots that pop up in a photo that detract from the image.

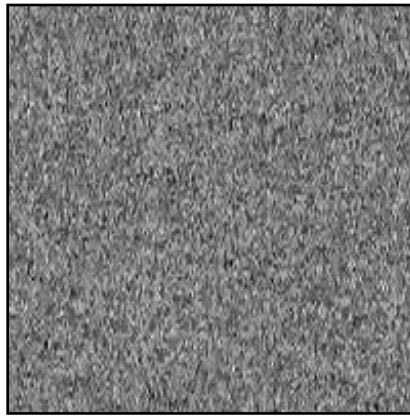
Noise can be caused by four factors—poor lighting conditions, high ISO settings, long exposure times, and heat. (Noise can also be intentionally added to an image during post-processing.)

There are two types of noise in photography—color and luminance. Luminance noise appears as grainy black and white spots in an image. Color noise appears as colorful dots or pixels. Both types of noise are distracting and make an image appear unclean.

Noise in your photos can be avoided or reduced by...

- using a lower ISO setting
- using the noise reduction setting with long exposures
- using a tripod and remote shutter release
- shooting in RAW format rather than .jpg

Noisy images can be fixed after shooting with your photo editing software. Programs like Adobe’s Photoshop, Camera RAW, and Lightroom, DxO’s PureRAW, ON1’s NoNoise AI, and Topaz’s Photo AI and Denoise AI can help remove both luminance and color noise from your images.



Luminance Noise



Color Noise

3 Points of Contact



Using a long lens when shooting distant subjects (like wildlife on a safari or street action in the big city) makes the task easier. But, it also comes with some big time drawbacks.

Long lenses, either prime or zoom, by their nature, are heavy. This makes them hard to hold steady compared to shorter focal length lenses. And who wants to schlep a

tripod (or even a monopod) on a forest trail or a crowded pedestrian sidewalk?

But all is not lost!

“Three points of contact” is a technique that can be used to improve stability when handholding a

long lens. In this technique the camera is braced against three points...

- one hand holding the camera body
- one hand under the lens
- the camera/viewfinder pressed against your eye or forehead

This greatly reduces the possibility of camera shake and blurry images.



NIK Updates

The Nik Collection is a suite of photo editing plugins—Color Efex, Silver Efex, Analog Efex, Viveza, Dfine, Sharpener, and HDR Efex—each with their specific post-processing purposes. It is designed for use with programs like Photoshop,

Lightroom, DxO Photolab, Affinity Photo, etc.

Nik Collection 8 is the 8th version of DxO's photo suite. (It is now up to Version 8.1.) And it is amazing!

You can learn all about the new and improved features at

<www.nikcollection.dxo.com>

You can get a free 30-day trial at <www.nikcollection.dxo.com/download>

If you decide to go for it, NIK 8 costs \$159.99 for new users and \$89.99 as an upgrade from Nik Collection 6 or 7.



Fisheye Lenses

A fisheye lens is a type of ultra wide-angle lens that produces strong visual distortion to create a wide panoramic or hemispherical image. Named for the visual effect they create, which is similar to how the world might look through a fish's eye, these lenses achieve an extremely wide field of view by bending incoming light rays in a way that is radically different from a typical camera lens.



There are two types of fisheye lenses—circular fisheye lenses, which produce a round image with a 180-degree field of view in all directions, and full-frame fisheye lenses, which produce a rectangular image with a 180-degree field of view only in the diagonal direction. The type of fisheye lens used can have a significant impact on the look of the final image.



The outcome of all this is an image that has a unique aesthetic—an extremely wide field of view, a lot of distortion towards the edges of the frame, and a kind of perspective “warping” that can make the image feel more dramatic.



Photo Cartoons



Most Shocking

The Girl and the Vulture was shot by Kevin Carter in the Sudan in March 1993 during the Sudanese Civil War. It was published by *The New York Times* and won the 1994 Pulitzer Prize for Feature Photography. In it is a little Sudanese girl who collapsed from hunger while on the trail to a feeding center as a vulture watches.

This photo is one of the most shocking photographs ever captured. It ignited

worldwide debate about the ethics of photojournalism.



Panorama of the Month



Field and Village ©2012 Chuck Pine

Where to Go

European River Cruising

From the cobblestone streets of medieval villages to opulent palaces and grand cathedrals, Europe's old-world treasures never cease to amaze. Unpack once and explore this rich cultural heritage on a river voyage that brings you to the heart of this continent's most captivating photo ops...



Grand European Tour
Amsterdam to Budapest
15 days, 12 land tours
from \$4,999



Romantic Danube
Regensburg to Budapest
8 days, 5 land tours
from \$2,399



Danube Waltz
Passau to Budapest
8 days, 6 land tours
from \$2,399



Passage to Eastern Europe
Budapest to Bucharest
11 days, 8 land tours
from \$3,699



Rhine & Main Explorer
Nuremberg to Basel
11 days, 9 land tours
from \$2,999

Photo Shorts

Zoom Telephoto Powerhouse



Panasonic just announced the first ultra-telephoto zoom for their full-frame S series—the *Lumix 100-500 f/5-7.1 OIS* lens. It is the smallest 500mm zoom available for a full-frame camera system at just 7.7 inches in length and only 2.83 pounds. It's made to face the elements with dust and splash resistance plus a working range from 14°F to 104°F. It features a minimum focus distance of just 2.6 ft at 100mm (4.92 ft at 500mm). Up to seven stops of image stabilization is built in. It comes in Panasonic's L-mount at a cost of \$2,097.99.

Lightweight Entry



Fujifilm just announced their new entry-level *X-T30 III* and the *XC 13-33mm f/3.5-6.3 OIS* zoom (20-40mm full frame equivalent). The combined weight is under one pound! The camera features a 26.1MP sensor, a 2.36 million dot electronic viewfinder, and 20 preset simulations. It will be available in black, silver, and charcoal. The lens has 4 stops of optical stabilization and a minimum focusing distance of just under 8 inches. All this for only \$1,149 when both are purchased as a kit.

Chrysanthemum Festival

Fall's favorite flower is here,... but it's also fleeting!

Just outside Philadelphia, in Kennett Square, Longwood Gardens is featuring their 2025 *Chrysanthemum Festival*.

They've colored outside the lines by nurturing and training chrysanthemums into 66 specialty forms, all ready to be photographed by you.

This special exhibit runs through Sunday, November 16th—so don't dawdle.

Timed admission tickets (\$32 for adults / \$28 for seniors) must be purchased in advance <www.longwoodgardens.org>



Got Film?

Film shooters out there, this one's for you.

The new **Negative Mode** in *ON1 Photo RAW 2026* makes it easier than ever to bring your film to life. Whether you've shot color or black-and-white, simply photograph your film with a camera or phone and let ON1 handle the rest.

With just *one click*, your negatives are inverted. The orange mask (on your color negatives) is removed. You



then have every editing tool at your beck and call. And they all work exactly as they do on your RAW files.



It's the perfect fusion of film's character and digital post-processing power!

Click [here](#) to see a short video on how it's all done.

Where to Go

Spooky Hotels

Halloween has come and gone. There are no more ghosts, ghouls, or goblins wandering the streets. But that doesn't mean they're not out there!

You hear a lot of your average, everyday hotel horror stories—filthy rooms, rowdy neighbors, watery eggs at the breakfast buffet—but nothing makes the hair on your arms stand on end quite like the stories about hotel ghosts and eerie, unexplainable events.

Even if you don't believe in the paranormal, photographing in (or spending a night at) a haunted hotel just might be enough to make you think twice about spooky things.

Here are some of the eeriest in the good old USofA...



Hotel Monteleone
New Orleans, LA



Omni Parker House
Boston, MA



Overland Hotel & Saloon
Pioche, NV



The Stanley Hotel
Estes Park, CO



Grand Galvez
Galveston, Texas



The Marshall House
Savannah, GA



The Emily Morgan
San Antonio, Texas

"Photography"

The word "photography" actually originates from the Greek words "photos" (φῶς) and "graphé" (γραφή).

Photos translates as light, while graphé means drawing or, more literally, writing.

When used together, the two words mean "drawing with light."

The original coining of the word "photography" is generally attributed to Sir John Herschel in 1839. Other suggested terms at that time included *heliography* (sun writing) and *photogeny* (born from light)).

Using Your Camera

by Chuck Pine

3 Legs vs 2 Legs

Some people think that using a tripod for taking photos is time consuming and not so much fun. Plus there's added weight to lug around. And you still need to set it up before you can start shooting. But if you want to take sharp photos and you're serious about your photography, there are times when this accessory is very helpful. For example...



Shaky Hands—Regardless of what type of camera you're using, a tripod can help you capture great images every time. Tripods are ideal for people who don't have the steadiest of hands.



Close-Ups—Taking close-up or macro shots not only magnifies the subject's size, but also its motion and the movement of the camera. Tripods eliminate this problem. Be sure to use a

remote release to trigger the shutter. If you don't have a remote, you can use the self-timer feature avoiding any unintentional movement.



Panning—This technique allows you to follow action that's taking place in front of you. Using a tripod with a pan head enables you to do this without adding unwanted motion into the scene.



Long Lenses—Using heavy telephoto and zoom lenses put more weight on your camera. A tripod will keep your device steady during extended shooting sessions.



Wind—Windy days can also be challenging when shooting. But with a tripod, you won't need to worry about getting blurry images. Just make sure your tripod is sturdy enough and not easily blown away. (You can add weight to the tripod by hanging your camera bag underneath the tripod.)

Lightning

Here are some suggestions and tips for getting the shot...

- Use a wide angle lens to get the lightning and skyline
- Use a small aperture (f-8 or smaller) to increase depth of field and get it all in focus
- Use a sturdy tripod and a remote shutter release.
- Use the bulb mode on your camera's shutter speed dial. Anticipate/guess when the lightning will strike and open the shutter. Once the lightning strikes, close the shutter shortly after a few bright flashes.
- Be safe—trees, power lines, even your tripod can act as a lightning rod that attracts tens of millions of volts or even more. Shoot from a protected location.

Photo Shopping

by Chuck Pine

Free Photo Editing Software

Adobe's software programs, Lightroom and Photoshop, are (arguably) the best ones on the market today. Topaz's Photo AI⁹ and Skylum's Luminar Neo are right up there, too. But they all have one thing in common—you have to break the piggy bank or mortgage the house to pay for them.

Not to worry!

There are many alternatives out there you can get that will cost you nothing. You will be giving up some/many of the features, however.

Here are some to check out for a free editing experience...



Google Photos—This is the Google replacement for Picasa. Rather than being installed on your computer, it is a web-based application. It integrates with other Google apps; has powerful AI search and organization tools, and is easy to use. But, it's web interface is not very smooth and editing capabilities are limited.



Darktable—This program combines file management and advanced raw editing in one piece of software. It's available to install on both Windows and Mac. However, it can be quite unstable and newer cameras might not be supported.



Microsoft Photos—This one is simple and easy-to-use. It's built specifically for Windows machines—it's pre-installed. It uses AI to identify faces and objects. Its photo editing features are quite limited.



Apple Photos—You'll find Apple Photos pre-installed on MacOS machines. Its design reflects the slick interface of Apple devices. You can crop, rotate, remove blemishes and

apply basic changes such as contrast, shadows and black/white points.



FastStone Image Viewer—This software is for Windows machines only and provides a quick and easy means of browsing, converting, and making basic edits to images. It can create slideshows with music and a wide choice of transition effects are available.



PhotoScape—It can edit and convert raw images and it has a huge number of filters. As well as offering basic editing such as resizing and rotating, it can reduce noise, remove redeye, and add a vignette. It comes in both Windows and Mac versions.



PhotoShopping

by Chuck Pine

Sky High Drama

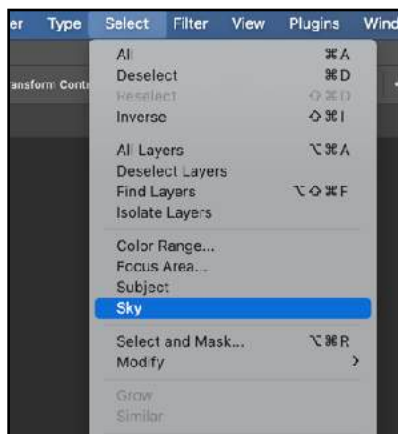
Do you have any images with great action but a dull sky?

I'll bet you do!

Here's a quick and simple way to change that image into something more dramatic...

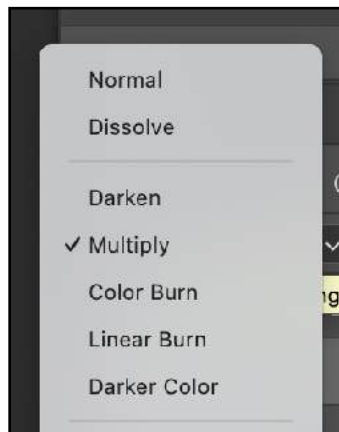


Open the image in Photoshop. (I've chosen this image of an osprey heading home with lunch. It's a great shot of the bird, but the sky is blah.)



In the **Menu Bar**, go to **Select > Sky**.

Paste the sky selection onto a new layer by typing **Command-J** (on a Mac) or **Control-J** (on a PC running Windows).



The last step is to change the **Blend Mode** from **Normal** to **Multiply**.



Voila! Instant drama in the sky.

Photographing Ice— So to Speak

Sometimes photographers are forced to rush their shot as the scene changes. But imagine if the very camera they were using was literally melting, and forcing the photographer to hurry before their equipment disappears.

This is the challenge faced by Tristan Duke, a Los Angeles experimental photographer sculpting his own ice lenses made from glacial ice to capture truly unique images.

[continued below]

More on Ice

To learn more about this experiment, you can go to <PetaPixel>



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. You can register online to guarantee a seat.



Mon, Nov 10

Multiple Exposures Photowalk

Speaker: Leo Mascaro



Tue, Nov 11

Central Park Colors Photowalk

Speaker: Tony Gale



Mon, Nov 17

Digital Editing

Speaker: Derek Fahsbender



Tue, Nov 18

Portrait Lighting

Speaker: Tony Gale



Mon, Nov 24

Creative Style

Speaker: Derek Fahsbender



Mon, Dec 8

Hudson Yards Photowalk

Speaker: Tony Gale

For more information and additional workshops go to [<bhphotovideo.com>](http://bhphotovideo.com) and click on Event Space.



New from Apple

Apple just announced its latest laptop computer, the 14" MacBook Pro, with their newest M5 chip. This baby delivers a huge performance leap, especially in the area of artificial intelligence.

The MacBook Pro comes in two colors—silver and space black—and three configurations. The base model has 16 GB of RAM and 512 GB of storage using a solid state drive. This will cost you \$1,599. The second level ups the storage to 1TB at a cost of \$1,799. The top model further boosts the RAM to 24 GB. This one will cost you \$1,999.

All three models come with a high res, anti-glare LCD monitor with a 3024 x 1964 pixel resolution. They sport three Thunderbolt 4/USB-C ports, an HDMI port so you can attach a larger monitor, and a memory card slot that accepts SD cards from your camera. The camera is a 12 MP job with 1080p resolution. All of this weighs in at less than 3 ½ pounds. Included are the keyboard, trackpad, and power supply.

Virtual Beach Bash



The Coastal Camera Club presents the 6th Annual Virtual Beach Bash

A Day with Charles and Melissa Needle

Next Level iPhone Photography

with Melissa Needle & Charles Needle

Saturday February 28th 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m

Impressionistic Photography: How to Use Your Camera as a Paintbrush

with Charles Needle

Saturday February 28th 3 p.m. - 5 p.m.

This event will be free of charge, but you must sign up using this EventBrite link...

<www.eventbrite.com/e/2026-virtual-photo-beach-bash-february-28-registration-1819577448129?aff=oddtcreator>



Enhance your photography skills
from portraits to puffins and everything
in between.

Start watching on...

TAMRON UNIVERSITY

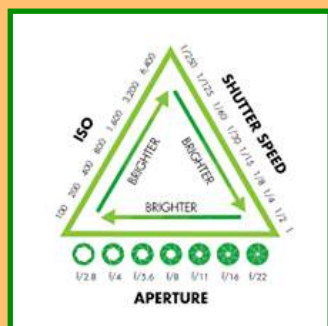
PHOTO MASTER CLASSES

A series of FREE online master classes taught by professional photographers, designed to enhance your skills and creativity.



Tamron America now has a series of free online master classes led by professional photographers. These multi-part courses are designed for enthusiasts looking to elevate their skills and creativity. Participants can access and complete each class at their own pace.

Enrollment is open at <www.tamronamericas.co/tamron-university>



Exposure Modes

Exposure settings can be intimidating. You have to juggle ISO, aperture, and shutter speed—the three legs of the “exposure triangle.”

With most cameras these days, you can choose to use one of four exposure modes...

- Manual (M)—where you have control over the three legs of the exposure triangle.
- Aperture Priority (A / Av)—where you set the aperture and ISO, and the camera picks the shutter speed. This lets you to control the image’s depth-of-field.
- Shutter Priority (S / Tv)—where you set the the shutter speed and ISO, and the camera adjusts the aperture This lets you freeze or blur motion and eliminate “camera shake.”
- Program Mode (P)— you select the ISO and the camera chooses aperture and shutter speed.



Ultimate Tigers

This journey is built around seven full shooting days in Bandhavgarh National Park, one of the world's premiere tiger reserves—three of them with unrestricted access and early entry to the park.

Trip Leader: Behzad Larry
April 1-10th, 2026
11 participants (2 per vehicle)
Cost-\$16,295 (Deposit-\$2,000)



Sierra Meetings 2025-2026

The New York City Sierra Club Photo Committee has meetings scheduled for the upcoming 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 must 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*

Landscape Masterclass



Ian Plant's Photomasters presents
Landscape Photography Masterclass Workshop
 Badlands National Park, South Dakota
 Price: \$2,495 (\$500 deposit required at booking)
 Class size: 8

May 21-24, 2026

May 25-28, 2026

I know the Badlands well enough to say this with certainty: You could visit a hundred times, and each time, you'd find something new. The changing light, the evolving weather patterns, and the subtle shifts in the landscape mean that no two experiences are ever the same.

That's why I host my Landscape Masterclass Workshops here each year, right at the start of summer storm season, when dramatic skies meet this rugged, colorful terrain.

This workshop goes beyond the usual overlooks. We'll get off the beaten path, dive deep into composition techniques like near-far framing, and learn how to work with light and weather to create truly standout images.

[<More Information and registration>](#)



2026 Workshops

Dr. Kah-Wai Lin will be leading the following photo workshops next year. Each will be with a noted co-leader. Click on the workshop title for pricing and info.

3 - 13 June

[Mongolia](#)

Co-leader: Jones Ross

14 - 20 June

[Pallas's Cats](#)

Co-leader: Jones Ross

13 - 20 July

[Faroe Islands](#)

Co-leader: Mark Denney

16 - 26 August

[Mongolia](#)

Co-leader: Ian Plant

8 - 20 December

[Yuanyang Rice Terrace
& Zhangjiajie](#)

Co-leader: Ian Plant



**Auxiliary of North Shore University Hospital
2025 Photo Contest**



**Winning Photos will be displayed
in the hospital**

Contest is Open to All
Submissions accepted until
December 31, 2025

Proceeds benefit NSUH's patient programs



For information & entry form contact:
Volunteer Experience Office
Photo Contest
North Shore University Hospital
300 Community Drive
Manhasset, NY 11030
(516) 562-2376
lbrelman@northwell.edu

Sponsored by the Auxiliary of North Shore University Hospital



ON1 Update

The following is from Scott Kelby's Kelby One website...

ON1 has just released Photo RAW 2026, and it's being called their biggest update in 20 years. Photographers had a lot of input on this version, so it's packed with improvements that focus on real-world editing needs.

Some highlights that caught our eye:

- Smarter AI Masking to isolate subjects quickly
- Fresh new Filters in Effects for more creative options
- Resize AI 2026 for sharper enlargements
- Overall faster, more responsive editing

It looks like they've really focused on making the workflow smoother while giving photographers more control.

Check out the latest release <[here](#)>

WE OFFER A UNIQUE PEOPLE FOCUSED PHOTOGRAPHY TOUR
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A PEOPLE FOCUSED PHOTOGRAPHY TOUR IN
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TEA PLUCKERS / STREET VENDORS / TRADITIONAL DANCERS / ELEPHANT SAFARI

WWW.BSLPAT.COM

ABOUT THE PHOTO TOUR

Beautiful Sri Lanka Photography Tours is a travel agency specializing in organizing captivating photo tours in Sri Lanka, filled with excitement and amazement. Each of our tours is led by an experienced Sri Lankan travel photographer, ensuring photographers, travelers, or students are in the right places at the perfect moment to capture stunning photographs. The tours are designed to include environmental portraits, candid portraits, posed portraits, cultural portraits, and character portraits. The tours mainly focus on photographing stilt fishermen, indigenous people, street vendors, tea pickers, elephant mahouts, and rural villages. The tours are perfect for anyone who has a passion for photography, whether you're travelling solo, with your partner, or with a small group of friends. Whether you're a seasoned photographer or just starting out, our tours are designed to cater to all skill levels.

<http://www.bslpat.com>



Big Cats

Whether you're drawn to Africa's golden plains, South America's flooded forests, or the rugged wilderness of the Andes, each of these tours offer the chance to capture nature at its most authentic—and find inspiration for your next great image.



Masai Mara Close Up
with Steve Winter
<www.zoomphototours.com/masai-maras-close-up>
8 days for \$5,700



Masai Mara Action
with Tom Dyring
<www.zoomphototours.com/masai-mara-action>
7 days for \$4,250



Pumas in Torres del Paine
with Mattias Klum
<www.zoomphototours.com/torres-del-paine>
12 days for \$9,950



The Jaguars of Pantanal
with Tom Svensson
<www.zoomphototours.com/pantanal>
9 days for \$5,750

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>](mailto:pwccny@gmail.com)

Check the Club's Website [<www.parkwestcameraclub.org>](http://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, November 10
Mini Portfolio Night

Four Park West members (Madeleine Barbara, Karen Corrigan, Elena Pierpont, and Michael Iannuzzi) volunteered to share a small portfolio of images on a single theme. They each will have 10 minutes to share their images, explain their concepts, and to answer questions from the members. Please join this presentation to support your fellow Club photographers and get to know them better.



Tuesday, November 11
Photo Op
Veterans Day Parades

The New York City Veterans Day Parade in 2025 is being held today. It will march up Manhattan's Fifth Avenue from 26th Street to 48th Street. Following the speeches and wreath-laying at the Eternal Light Flagstaff in Madison Square Park around 11 a.m.,

the parade kicks off at 12:30 p.m. This event is the nation's largest observance of Veterans Day. If you're interested, there will be many other Veterans Day parades throughout the metropolitan area—check your local listings.



* Tuesday, November 11
Print Salon

The Club's Print Salon will be meeting this afternoon. See the article on page 23 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.

Tuesday, November 11
Photo Event
Sierra Photo Meeting

The New York City Sierra Club's photography group will be holding its meeting tonight. The guest speaker is Jessica Kende. She is a product designer at Adobe. She will be sharing how Lightroom empowers nature photographers to bring out the best in their images. Jessica will also be reviewing all the exciting new tools and updates launching in October's release of Adobe MAX. This is a hybrid meeting



© Jessica Kende



from the series
The Absurdities of Eggs
© R Wayne Parsons

—live-and-in-person and on Zoom. Either way you attend, tickets must be purchased at <www.eventbrite.com> online prior to tonight’s meeting. An \$8 donation is suggested. The meeting is being held in the 4th floor auditorium (room 428F) at the School of Visual Arts (136 West 21st Street, between 6th and 7th Avenues) at 6:30 p.m. The closest subway stations are at 23rd Street on the #1, F/M, and C/E lines.

* Monday, November 17
Guest Speaker
Wayne Parsons

Tonight’s guest photographer is R. Wayne Parsons. “I am a city-based photographer. My education includes a BA in

physics from the University of Mississippi and a Ph.D. in political science from Columbia University. I was a late-comer to photography, buying my first camera when I turned forty and studying black-and-white technique at the International Center of Photography. My interests expanded to color imagery when I bought into digital photography in 2001. I also review photo exhibitions for the *New York Photo Review* <www.nyphotoreview.com> I am a long-time member and past president of Soho Photo Gallery.” Wayne will present

images from his series *The Absurdities of Eggs*. These are constructed still life’s that all contain eggs in some form. They are often infused with vibrant digital colors. They are accompanied by captions that appear profound, but are really highfalutin nonsense. To see other images from this series, go to <www.instagram.com/parsonsrwayne> For some of Wayne’s other images, go to <www.rwayneparsons.com> The curtain raiser for tonight will be Elena Pierpont. Her presentation will be *Windows, Part II* (part one was shared a few years ago with the Club).

From Whence Kodak?

Did you know the term “Kodak” is simply made up? The company founder, George Eastman, favored the letter “K” because he believed it was a “strong, and incisive sort of letter.” Using an anagram set, Eastman and

his mother came up with the name “Kodak.” They used three guiding principles:

1. The word needed to be short
2. The word needed to be easy to say
3. The word needed to be unlike any other name or association



* Tuesday, November 18
Field Trip
High Line & Hudson Yards

The High Line is an elevated public park, greenway, and rail trail created on a former New York Central Railroad spur on Manhattan's West Side. It stretches for about one-and-a-quarter miles from the City's Meat Packing District up to the Hudson Yards. We'll take a leisurely stroll starting at the southern end of the High Line and work our way northward, stopping to photograph any- and everything that strikes our fancy. We'll meet at the Gansevoort/ Washington Street entrance to the High Line at 10 a.m. The A, C, E, and L subway lines are the closest at 14th Street and 8th Avenue—about a 6 block walk. We'll end up at Hudson Yards where there's lots more to shoot, as well as plenty of places for a bite to eat. Contact the trip leader, Ann Broder <dzynrab@aol.com> to let her know you will be joining us on this outing. If you can't find us when you arrive at the High Line, give Ann a call at (917) 297-0598.



Tuesday, November 18
NYMACC Meeting

The New York Metro Area Camera Council is an umbrella organization for camera clubs and other photography groups in the metropolitan area. Park West is a founding member of the council. All Club members are invited to attend tonight's meeting to see what's going on around town, photographically speaking, or course. Their monthly Zoom meeting starts at 7 p.m. If you'd like to join the meeting contact NYMACC <deborah.NYMACC@gmail.com> for the Zoom link.



* Wednesday, November 19
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. Your images should use the Club sizing rules (.jpg/ 72ppi/ 2,000px on the longest side). See page 6 of this issue of *Photo Notes* for sizing and labeling



Park West's former home, the Soho Photo Gallery, is having some interesting exhibits over the next two months or so.

The Alternative Processes Exhibit celebrates many of the techniques from the early days of photography plus a few of the modern takes on alternatives. Some of the processes include albumen, cyanotype, and Daguerreotype, as well as handmade prints created from digital negatives. This exhibit runs from November 12th to November 30th.

The December showcase will include works from five of the Soho members plus works by the gallery's interns. This exhibit will run from December 3rd to December 28th.

Soho Photo Gallery is located on the ground floor at 539 West 23rd Street, between 10th and 11th Avenues. They are open Wednesday thru Sunday from 12 noon to 6 p.m. and til 8 p.m. on Thursdays.

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 tune in to view and comment on the images and demonstrations. Send your images only to this website <pwccny@gmail.com>



* Thursday, November 20
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.



* Monday, November 24
Business Meeting #2

Tonight is the second business meeting of the year. There's always plenty of excitement in the air. We will continue with any old business left over from September's meeting and we'll move forward with any new business both from the chair and from the floor.



* Monday, November 24
Image Deadline
December Competition

Please note that PDI entries are due by midnight tonight for next week's competition. See page 6 of this issue of *Photo Notes* on how to prepare your images. More information is available in our *Competition Manual*. Send your images to <pwcccompetition@yahoo.com> If you want confirmation that both of your images were received, add this address <hfklein@mindspring.com> to your email with the images.

Wednesday, November 26
Photo Op—
Balloons Galore

Do you remember the opening scene of the movie *Miracle on 34th Street* (the original one) where Natalie Wood enjoys the pre-parade thrills of the Macy's extravaganza? Would you like to experience the same joy and wonderment, as well as the photo possibilities? Just head up to the Museum of Natural History via the B or C train, or take the #1 train to 79th Street and walk to the Museum. Surrounding the museum, starting in the mid-afternoon, and going on all

night, you'll find plenty to shoot. Be sure to bring a zoom lens and a flash to get the best shots. There're plenty of places to grab a bite and warm up.



Thursday, November 27
Photo Op—
Thanksgiving Day Parade

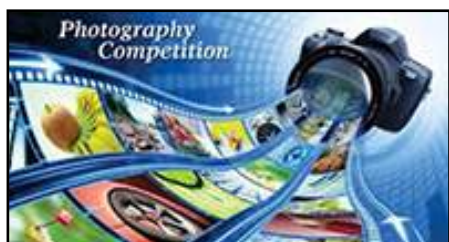
Before you settle down for a Thanksgiving feast, come to shoot the 98th annual Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade as it marches from the Museum of Natural History down Central Park West and then 6th Avenue to Herald Square. The parade will feature performances by the Rockettes, Broadway stars, and high school marching bands, as well as dozens of colorful floats and gigantic helium balloons. Santa Claus brings up the rear of the parade, kicking off the 2025 holiday (shopping) season. The parade kicks off at 8:30 a.m. and lasts til around noon.





Thursday, November 27
Thanksgiving

Turkey or turkey chow mein? Whatever you're feast will be this year, remember to give thanks for all your blessings—both photographic and every other kind you can think of.



* Monday, December 1
Monthly Competition #3

Tonight, the third competition of the year, asks the questions *Who will win the top honors? What will the judge say about your images? Will you agree?* The only way to find the answers to these probing posers is to enter and join the Zoom meeting. Full rules are available on the Club website. PDI entries must be submitted by midnight one week prior to today (November 24th). You may enter up to two PDIs. Tonight's judge is yet to be confirmed. Check the website and listen for announcements at our meetings for the late breaking details.



Wednesday, December 3
Photo Op—
Christmas Tree Lighting

This year's Rockefeller Center Christmas Tree, a (75 feet tall, 75 year old, 11 ton) Norway Spruce, will be cut down on Thursday, November 6th, and will arrive at Center Plaza on Saturday, November 8. After being wrapped with more than 50,000 multi-colored, energy efficient LED lights and crowned with a (900 pound, 70-spiked, 3-dimensional) Swarovski star, the tree will be lit tonight. (The ceremony will run from 7 to 10 p.m. The tree will be on display until mid-January. Afterwards, the tree will be milled into lumber for Habitat for Humanity.



* Monday, December 8
Workshop
Macro and Close-up

The world of macro and close-up photography is challenging technically and artistically!

Tonight's workshop will lead you through both aspects of making images of very small subjects. We are waiting to confirm an internationally-known expert in the field who was suggested by members in our Club questionnaire. Check the website and listen for any announcements at our Zoom meetings for the latest details on our workshop leader.



* Tuesday, December 9
Print Salon

The Club's Print Salon will be meeting this afternoon. Detailed information on the topics to be covered will be available in the next issue of *Photo Notes*.



Sunday, December 14
Photo Op—
Menorah Lighting

The Jewish Festival of Lights, Chanukah, is an eight-day celebration that begins tonight. Witness the lighting of the

world's largest menorahs at sundown. Both Grand Army in Brooklyn and Grand Army Plaza in Manhattan compete for that title with their 32-foot-high, two-ton steel structures. In both of these sites, lightings take place at 5:30 p.m. (3:30 p.m. on Friday and 8:30 p.m. on Saturday).



* Monday, December 15
Holiday Party

Save the date. The Club's annual Holiday Party will be held tonight at Arte Cafe. It's located at 106 West 73rd Street, just a few steps west of Columbus Avenue. (Yes! This is where we held last season's very successful Otto Litzel Memorial Year-End Dinner.) The closest subway stations are at 72nd Street on the #1/2/3 and B/C lines. All the details including time, menu, and cost will be discussed at the Club's November business meeting and will be published in the December issue of *Photo Notes*.



Tuesday, December 16
Photo Event
Sierra Photo Meeting

The New York City Sierra Club's photography group will be holding its meeting tonight. This will be a members' night. Each member may submit up to eight nature-themed images to share with the group. Each image must be formatted as a JPEG file, in the sRGB color space, at 72ppi, with 1,920 or 2,000 pixels on the longest side. Label each image with your name and a sequential number (Jones_Mary#1.jpg). The entry deadline is 6 p.m., Saturday, December 13th. Email them to sierraphotonyc2@gmail.com This meeting will take place entirely on Zoom. Tickets must be bought online in advance at www.eventbrite.com An \$8 donation is suggested.



* Monday, December 22
No Meeting
Winter Break

There will be no meeting tonight. Wishing you some great photo-related gifts under the tree (or in front of the Menorah or the Kinara). If you will be traveling over these holidays, be safe and come back with tons of great images.



* Monday, December 29
No Meeting
Winter Break

There will be no meeting this evening. Why not go out in the neighborhood or somewhere else to shoot the last of the holiday decorations? Dyker Heights, in Brooklyn, might be a great location now that the crowds have died down.





* Monday, December 29
Image Deadline
January Competition

Please note that PDI entries are due by midnight tonight for next week's competition—the fourth of the year. Your images should follow the Club sizing rules (.jpg/72ppi/2,000px on the longest side). See page 6 in this issue of *Photo Notes* for labeling directions. More information can be found in the soon-to-be updated *PWCC Competition Manual*. Send your two entries to <pwcccompetition@yahoo.com> If you want confirmation that your images were received, add this second email address <hfklein@mindspring.com> to the email with your images.



Wednesday, December 31
Photo Ops
New Year's Eve

Get out in the fresh air and do some shooting to welcome in the new year. There's the "ball drop" at Times Square. You can also go to Central Park to shoot the Midnight Run. Fireworks? Find them in Central Park, at the Statue of Liberty, and also in Brooklyn's Prospect Park, not to mention dozens of other towns around the metro area.

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