

PHOTO NOTES

Park West
Camera Club

September 2026



This Issue

Volume 88 • Issue 1

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Over 100 members' images inside!

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

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

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

Photo Notes is optimized for viewing digitally.

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Cover Photo
Diving Snowy Egret
© 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

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Field Trip	Vacancy
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Print Salon	Larry Rubin
Program	Marilyn Fish-Glynn Alice Somma
Social	Vacancy
Website	Michael Schleiff Christine Doyle
Workshop	Ed Lee Bruce Byers
Year End Project	Ann Broder Christine Doyle Marlene Schonbrun

President's Message

Coming Together

I can't remember a previous summer with so many days having temperatures in the 90s. Do you?

But don't worry, September is right around the corner. And with it, cooler temps, I hope.

Also just ahead is a new season of Park West Camera Club. It all starts off with our annual Labor Day weekend picnic (named in my honor). It will again be held on the roof of Gladys Hopkowitz's apartment building. (See the article on page 7 of this issue of *Photo Notes*.)

Our Program Committee (co-chaired by Marilyn and Alice) is hard at work booking judges and guest presenters for the year. We'll be seeing some new faces, I am told, as well as some of our regulars from years past.

The Club's ExCom has set up a dozen programs, in which Club members participate by sharing images. This includes two *You Be the Judge* nights, a twist on our popular *Halloween Scavenger Hunt*, a bunch of *Theme Nights*, and more. (See the article on page 8 of this issue of *Photo Notes*.)

Of course, members will still be submitting images for our first Monday of the month competitions plus our year-end competition in June.



© Larry Rubin

And don't forget our monthly PDI workshops, led by Helen, where member-submitted images are critiqued and improved upon using the latest post-processing software and techniques.

We've also planned a few workshops for you,... and an outdoor fashion model shoot.

In addition to the above-mentioned picnic, we've got

two more social gatherings—the annual Holiday Party and the Otto Litzel Memorial Year-End Dinner—both of which include dinner.

The 33rd year of the Club's Expanding Visions class is also slated for the spring and/or summer months.

Finally, we're in the process of recruiting Club member volunteers to lead field trips in and around the City.

All in all, it looks like a great year ahead. You are all welcome to join in the fun and educational activities that Park West has to offer.

Let's have another great year together,

Chuck

Photo Notes

Publisher: Park West Camera Club

Editor: Chuck Pine

Committee: Evelyne Appel, Madeleine Barbara, Ann Broder, Renée Harper, Gladys Hopkowitz, Hedy Klein, Helen Pine, Puneet Sood, and Julie Wosk

Contributors: Evelyne Appel, Ann Broder, Bruce Byers, Julie Foehrenbach, Jeff Langford, Charles Levin, Natalie Manzino, David Miller, Chuck Pine, Helen Pine, Larry Rubin, Michael Schleiff, and Julie Wosk

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

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2026 - 2027 Schedule

September

6	Club Picnic
7	No Meeting—Labor Day
14	Welcome Back!—Show and Tell *
21	No Meeting—Yom Kippur
24	PDI Workshop *
28	Business Meeting #1

October

5	Competition #1 *
12	Model Shoot (Columbus Day)
19	Guest Speaker
22	PDI Workshop *
26	“Halloween” Scavenger Hunt *

November

2	Competition #2
9	Theme Night—Model Shoot
16	Guest Speaker
1	PDI Workshop *
23	You Be the Judge—Night *
30	Business Meeting #2

December

7	Competition #3 *
14	Holiday Party
21	Guest Speaker
28	No Meeting—Holiday Break

January

4	Competition #4 *
11	Theme Night—Mannequins *
18	Guest Speaker (ML King Day)
21	PDI Workshop *
25	Workshop—Bookmaking

February

1	Competition #5 *
8	Theme Night—Water *
15	Guest Speaker (Presidents’ Day)
18	PDI Workshop *
22	Interpretations *

March

1	Competition #6 *
8	Workshop—Table Top
15	Guest Speaker
18	PDI Workshop *
22	Before and After *
29	Business Meeting #3

April

5	Competition #7 *
12	Theme Night—Table Top *
19	Guest Speaker
22	PDI Workshop *
26	You Be the Judge—Weather *

May

3	Competition #8 *
10	Theme Night—Speed *
17	Guest Speaker
24	Business Meeting #4
31	No Meeting (Memorial Day)

June

7	Year-End Competition *
14	TBA
21	OLMD (Flag Day)
28	TBA

* indicates members’ images requested



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.”

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_Jan23_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

Upcoming Image Deadlines

<u>Event</u>	<u>Submission Deadline</u>	<u>Event Date</u>
Welcome Back	Sep. 12th	Sep. 14th
PDI Workshop	Sep. 23rd	Sep. 24th
Competition #1	Sep. 28th	Oct. 5th
You Be the Judge	Oct 19th	Nov. 23rd
Scavenger Hunt	Oct. 24th	Oct. 26th

Save the Date

Sep. 6th	Chuck Pine Picnic
Sep. 14th	Welcome Back—Show & Tell
Oct. 12th	Model Shoot
Dec. 14th	Holiday Party
Jun. 7th	Year-End Competition
Jun. 14th	Otto Litzel Memorial Dinner

Club Meeting Times

The Park West Camera Club's Monday night meetings this coming 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.

Night Photo "Don'ts"

Night photography has a way of showing every weakness in your technique. Colors look muddy. Highlights blow out. Shadows become noisy. And more.

Most disappointing night photos aren't caused by your equipment. They're caused by common mistakes..

Spread throughout this issue of *Photo Notes* are "Don'ts" that you should avoid...



Renewal Time Is Here!

Welcome back to another year of Park West photography programs. Your membership brings with it a complement of rights and privileges. These include participation in Club competitions and admittance to all our Zoom meetings.

Club dues for the 2026-27 year are \$60 per person—*this includes the Club's honorary life members*. As usual, the ExCom will consider requests for a reduction of dues for those who request it.



Please pay your \$60 Club dues by September 30th, 2025. Make your check or money order (no cash in the mail, please) payable to PWCC. Cover your check/money order with a folded sheet of plain paper, seal it in an envelope, and mail it to our Membership Chairperson...

Marlene Schonbrun
315 Riverside Drive, # 5E
New York, NY 10025



You may also send your \$60 payment using Zelle. Send the funds to [<jnawyl@gmail.com>](mailto:jnawyl@gmail.com) and it will be deposited in the Club's account.

Emailing PWCC

Send your competition images to...

[<pwcccompetition@yahoo.com>](mailto:pwcccompetition@yahoo.com)

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

[<pwccny@aol.com>](mailto:pwccny@aol.com)

Send all other email to...

[<pwccny@gmail.com>](mailto:pwccny@gmail.com)

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

Zooming

Zoom is a web-based video-conferencing software tool that allows users to meet on-line. It is compatible with Windows, Macs, all smart-phones, and all 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 have the link to join the meeting. All you have to do is click on the link to enter.

To download Zoom, go to [<www.zoom.us/download>](http://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>](mailto:pwccny@gmail.com)



Active

Chuck Pine
Helen Pine
Natalie Manzino
Ed Lee
Bill Apple
Marilyn Fish-Glynn
Myron Galef

Inactive

Gary Koulish
Linda Safran
Paul Perkus

Deceased

Ann Jackson
Fran Wetzstein
Gordon Watson
George Archibald
Sarah Corbin
Geraldine Cooke
Otto Litzel
Myron Brenton

Chuck Pine Picnic

This year, Park West Camera Club's annual Labor Day Picnic, in honor of President, Chuck Pine, is scheduled for Sunday of the Labor Day weekend, September 6th. The site is atop the Westminster apartment building—the home of long-time PWCC member, Gladys Hopkowitz.

The Westminster is located on the southeast corner of 7th Avenue and West 20th Street, in Chelsea. The address is 180 West 20th Street.



The roof affords views of the City in all directions plus wide-open views of Jersey—great for sunsets. There are seating options, and, did I mention, the great views? And, just in case of rain, there is an indoor party room on the ground floor.

Getting to the Westminster is easy. The closest subway stop is the 18th Street station on the #1 line. Also within a few minutes' walk are more

than a half-dozen other lines. A plethora of buses are also available should you prefer to remain above ground.

This year the Club Picnic will be a B.Y.O. affair! If you don't know, BYO stands for "bring your own." The Club will not be providing any food or drink again this year. You must bring your own!!!



Bring a sandwich from home or pick one up from Subway, or a deli, or a your favorite supermarket. Bring a box of fried chicken from KFC, Popeye's, or any other cluckin' store. A slice or two might not be a bad idea. Burgers and fries, anyone? The choices are almost endless. Don't forget your side dish, appetizer, dessert, drinks, etc.

If you'd like to bring something to share with the group—a box of cookies, a bag of chips, a bottle of wine, a six-pack of beer or soda, whatever, (at your own expense) feel free to do so.

Space is limited! Only 35 or so PWCC members and their guests can be accommodated. A list must be provided for the doorman. Therefore, we request that you reserve your spot(s) at the picnic via e-mail to us at [<pwccny@gmail.com>](mailto:pwccny@gmail.com) This is on a first come, first admitted basis.

You may start arriving



around 5 p.m. You may come anytime after 5 if you've got other things to do. We'll keep the party going 'til 8 p.m. or so. (Sunset is at 7:24 p.m.)

There will be lots to do, or not. You can sit around and chat with, and get to better know, your fellow PWCC members. You may start or join in on a photo discussion—consider it an off-the-cuff workshop. You can take a field trip around the neighborhood; maybe even take a few photos along the way. You can shoot from the rooftop vantage points all around the building.

Oh, by the way, there is no cost to attend—IT'S FREE!!!

WANTED

★ **DEAD OR ALIVE** ★

PWCC
members...
to volunteer
for Club
committees.

\$99,870,960

★ **REWARD** ★

Club Participation Nites

This coming year there will be 12 Monday night programs, (plus our competitions and PDI workshops) in which Club members participate. Here's a quick rundown on these fun and educational activities...



September 14th—*Welcome Back* What'd you do over the last few months? Share up to 10 images to tell your story. Entry deadline: Sept. 12th.

October 26th—*Scavenger Hunt* We're asking members to bring in 10 images—but it's not what you think. See page 9 in this issue of *Photo Notes* for all the nitty-gritty details. Deadline: Oct. 24th.

November 9th—*Theme Night: Model Shoot* We shot a model last month (on Columbus Day). Tonight we'll share up to 10 images from that shoot. Entry deadline: Nov. 7th.

November 23rd—*You Be the Judge: Night and/or Low Light* You may submit one image pertaining to the subject that has never been seen at any previous Club function. Each entry will be commented on

and scored by all participating Club members. Entry deadline: Oct 19th.



January 11th—*Theme Night: Mannequins* We've just gotten through the holiday season. The stores and windows have been filled with mannequins. Show us how you captured them. (Call this photography for dummies?) Limit of 10 pix, please. Deadline: Jan. 9th.

February 8th—*Theme Night: Water* Most of us live on an island—we're surrounded by water. You may submit up to 10 images of H₂O in any of its forms (solid, liquid, or gas). Entry deadline: Feb 6th.



February 22nd—*Interpretations* The Club will provide the base images. The members will alter them in any way they see fit. Let your imagination and your software skills run amok. Entry deadline: February 20th.

March 22nd—*Before and After* We're always asking each other "How did you do that?" This evening we'll 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. Deadline: Mar 20th.

April 12th—*Theme Night: Table Top* Last month's workshop on table top photography laid the groundwork. Now it's your turn to show us what you learned. Submit up to 10 still life images Deadline: Apr. 12th.



April 26th—*You Be the Judge: Weather* You may enter one image that depicts any aspect of weather as long as it has never been seen at any past Club activity. Each entry will be commented on and scored by the Club membership. Deadline: Mar. 22nd.

May 10th—*Theme Night: Speed* Speed describes "how fast" something moves. Submit up to 10 images that convey speed or motion. Deadline: May. 8th.

PDI Workshops

Our Projected Digital Image workshops are held monthly on Thursday evenings. All entry deadlines are the previous day.

Print Salon

by Larry Rubin



It's hard to believe that the Print Salon is beginning its fourth program year within Park West Camera Club. It began in late-2023 when the Club realized there was no practical way to work with prints given the limitations imposed during the COVID pandemic. The Print Salon's primary goal continues to be the making and discussion of photographic prints.

Park West members are encouraged to bring their print work to monthly meetings. The subject or topic for prints to be examined may be set beforehand. Other times, participants may share what they're working on at that particular time. Discussion about the prints is likely to address such topics as choice of photographic subject,

the photographer's intention in taking the picture, how and why the image is composed as it is, what post-production steps did the photographer follow in preparing to print the image. Person-to-person conversation about these and all other matters related to taking and making prints is central to the purpose and achievement of the Print Salon.

What occurs at meetings has been lively, animated, useful, and respectful. Any Club member interested in joining the Print Salon or looking for more information should contact me directly at <larryrubinnyc@gmail.com> or (917) 596-8500.

Our first meeting of the year is scheduled for Tuesday, September 15th.

Sunshine Fund

As part of the Club's Social Committee, the Sunshine Fund has the responsibility to acknowledge birthdays, deaths, births, illnesses, and any other life events that impact our Club members and their families.

Long-time Club member Natalie Manzano volunteers to take on this task for us. She needs 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, both present and past, that would be great, too.



917-757-7086

<bklynntat@hotmail.com>

Scavenger Hunt

The Club meeting on the 26th of October will be our annual (more or less) Halloween scavenger hunt—but with a slight twist.



Your 10 images in this year's hunt will spell out the word H-A-L-L-O-W-E-E-N.

Your first image must contain an object, or convey a feeling, or something that starts with the letter "H." The second image must do the same with the letter "A." And so on through the rest of the word.

But doesn't Halloween only have 9 letters? Yes!!! Your 10th image should be anything that has to do with this time of year. It could be about Halloween, or the autumn season, or whatever else comes to mind.

The submission deadline is Saturday, October 24th at 11:59 p.m. Send your images to <pwccny@gmail.com>

by Ann Broder

You're Invited!

I'm pleased to announce that the Year-End Project will return for the new Club year beginning in September. Last year was a historic journey for our club members who participated in YEP because a program such as this had not been tried before. Success comes with hard work, and because of you and what you brought to it, you made it so. Congrats and big, big thanks to all the Yeppers who worked hard on their projects and showed up every month!

Last year we covered technical issues, explored the

value of intention, and critiqued our own work with objectivity. We explored sequencing and presented our stories at the end of the Club year. These factors and others created a deeper sense of what visual storytelling is about, and you told it well at every meeting. That's the foundation we will be building on over this new club year.

As always, we like to explore new possibilities, so this year we have come up with a twist to the project that we will call "short stories." Look for an email from me AFTER the this first edition of *Photo Notes* arrives in your email inbox.

The window for joining us will last until the orientation meeting on September 16th at 6:30 p.m. A few days before the Zoom orientation, you will receive an email that discusses the project curriculum. We'll go into more detail at the meeting.

When you email us with your invitation RSVP, please include the three of us in the address bar...

- Ann Broder
dzynrab@aol.com
- Christine Doyle
christinedoyle52@gmail.com
- Marlene Schonbrun
marlenesch7@gmail.com

Your three amigas look forward to seeing everyone there!

Got It!

On August 14, 1945, *Life* photographer Alfred Eisenstaedt was in Times Square when the news broke, "Japan Surrenders." The war was over. The crowd erupted. People poured out of restaurants and shops onto the streets.

A sailor grabbed a nurse—a complete stranger—and kissed her.

Eisenstaedt turned and made one frame. This is it.

"I didn't even know if I had caught it," he said afterward. "Everything was happening so fast."



He did!

V-J Day in Times Square became one of the most reproduced photographs in history. Eisenstaedt never learned the names of either person in the frame.

What he had was the image, and that was enough.

It was the middle of the afternoon. Overcast skies, flat light, a crowded street with nothing special about the conditions. And yet the photograph works—because Eisenstaedt knew exactly how to use what he had.

That's the thing about light. You don't need perfect conditions. You need to understand it well enough to work with whatever you've got—and that's a skill that changes everything about how you shoot.

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.

Nine curtain raisers will be needed for the Club program next year. We'll be looking for volunteer presenters shortly.

See page ?? in this issue of *Photo Notes* for more info.



September Birthdays

by Natalie Manzino

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

Ann Broder
Renée Harper

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 2024-2025 Club year:

Competition	Michael
Field Trip	Chuck
Gallery	Jeff
Membership	Helen
Photo Notes	Chuck
Print Salon	Betsy
Program	Christine
Social	Helen
Website	Michael
Workshop	Joe
YEP	Christine

Inactive Committees

Archive
House



Photo Notes Deadlines

Issue	Deadline
September	Aug 17th
October	Oct 5th
November	Nov 2nd
December	Dec 7th
January	Jan 4th
February	Feb 1st
March	Mar 1st
April	Apr 5th
May	May 3rd
Summer	Jun 7th

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 and to the Website Committee to be uploaded to

<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)

Night Photo “Don’ts”

Don’t Handhold Your Camera

Unless you’re going for blur in your street shooting, handholding your camera at night is a no-no. As light levels drop, shutter speeds become much longer. Even the slightest camera motion will soften an otherwise beautiful image. Instead...

- use a tripod
- use a remote shutter release or the self-timer with a 2-second delay



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 almost four years ago. As of this week we had 1,000 postings and 600 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 are able to fit the IG format—mainly landscape and squarish images. To protect our work, we have employed settings that prevent others from stealing our images or profiles as their own.

Keep in mind that the IG program is primarily a mobile app designed to be used with a smartphone or a tablet. If you use a computer, you can look at the pages but you won’t be able to post anything.

To visit the Park West page, download the Instagram app on your phone or tablet or go to www.instagram.com on your computer. Search for @Parkwestcameraclub and once you have found the site, press the *FOLLOW* button.

On the Website

by Michael Schleiff

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

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

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

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

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

Thank you and enjoy the PWCC forums.

By-Laws Amendment

Article III - Competitions,
Section 2 - Rules of Entry,
Part (b) currently reads:

All entries must have been totally made by the member, with the following exceptions: film need not be processed by the member; prints need not be mounted nor matted by the member; digital files from film need not be scanned by the member. The inclusion of clip art, web images, stock images, or the like are not permitted as part of an image unless they were created by the member.

At the PWCC May 18th business meeting, president Chuck Pine, proposed the following amendment to the above section of the *By-Laws*:

The use of artificial intelligence is permitted for image enhancement purposes only, including extending, enlarging, sharpening, retouching, removing unwanted elements and performing similar editing functions. However, the use of textual or verbal prompts to generate or add new visual elements, subjects, or content that did not originally exist within the image is strictly prohibited.

This proposal was discussed by the quorum of members present at the meeting. It is published in this issue of *Photo Notes* for the entire membership.

It will again be discussed at the Club's September 28th business meeting at which time changes may be made and a vote will be taken.

This amendment must be approved by a two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) vote of the membership at that meeting as long as a quorum of twenty percent (20%) of all members in good standing is present and voting.



Images of the Month

During the 2025-2026 PWCC year we had eight monthly competitions—each one with over 80 images submitted by a total of 57 Club members.

Impressive!



Want to know what's even more impressive than these numbers? Only one member won more than one Image of the Month—*Puneet Sood*.

Rock Hug Point Oregon by Puneet Sood
Wings Abstract by Albyn Davis
Bridal Veil by Florence Forman
Met Security Guard by Michael Iannuzzi
Menorah by Helen Pine
Lamp and Fog by Puneet Sood
Portal 2 by Ann Broder
Spiceman by Ruth Yashpan

Want more impressiveness? Only one of the eight monthly winners received a Year-End Competition award—*Spiceman* by Ruth Yashpan.



Expanding Visions 32

Assignment #1

This year's Expanding Visions class, the 32nd, had four basic assignments. The first was *Tall, Wide, & More* in which we had to shoot the same image in at least three different ways—

- vertically (portrait)
- horizontally (landscape)
- diagonally

Even though the field trip was rained out, 28 members shot the assignment on their own. Here are some of their images...



Vertical
© Elena Pierpont



Vertical
© Janet Susin



Diagonal
© Daryl Corcoran

Continued on next page



Horizontal
© Jill Greiss



Diagonal
© David Miller

Horizontal
© Raylie Dunkel



Vertical
© Evelyne Appel

Vertical
© Helen Pine



Continued on next page



Diagonal
© Julie Wosk



Vertical
© Christine Doyle

Diagonal
© Steve Mullen



Vertical
© Barry Fahrer



Continued on next page



Diagonal
© Carole De Beer



Diagonal
© Allan Laager



Diagonal
© Michael Iannuzzi



Horizontal
© Karen Corrigan

Continued on next page



Vertical
© Renée Harper



Diagonal
© Lilette Hubila



Diagonal
© Sonia Durante

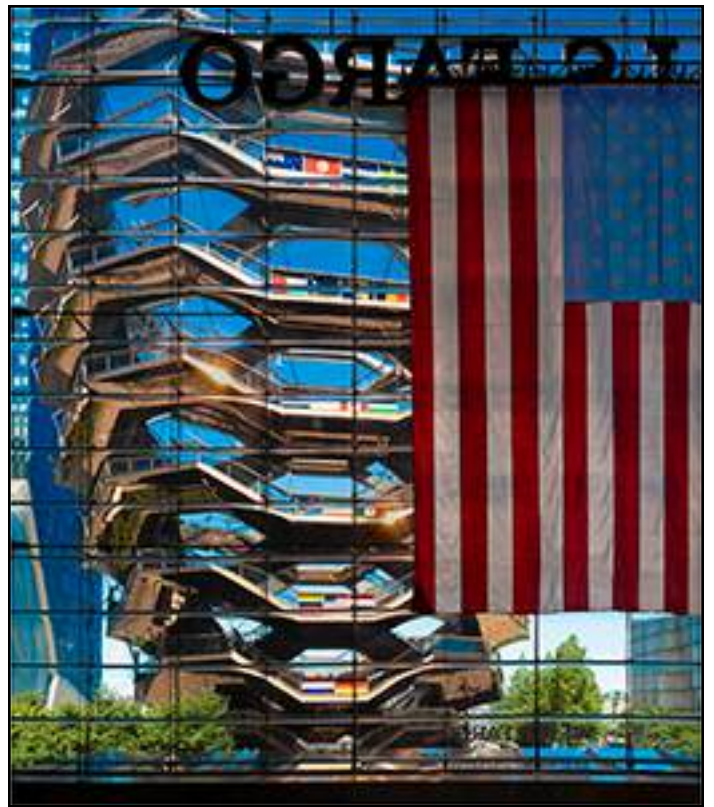


Vertical
© Bruce Byers

Continued on next page



Vertical
© Marlene Schonbrun



Vertical
© Ann Broder



Diagonal
© Julie Foehrenbach



Diagonal
© Peggy Winkelman

Continued on next page



Vertical
© Betsy Currier



Vertical
© Elayne Dix



Diagonal
© Tom Quackenbush



Horizontal
© Doris King

Continued on next page



Diagonal
© Bonnie Dubin



Diagonal
© Chuck Pine

Night Photo “Don’ts”

Don’t Use Auto Exposure Mode

Your camera has no idea what kind of night photo you’re trying to create. It will raise the ISO too high, choose an aperture that’s too large or too small, and/or pick shutter speeds that don’t match the subject. Night photos always benefit from Manual Mode or Aperture/Shutter Priority Mode. You’ll have control over:

- Exposure
- Motion blur
- Noise
- Depth of field



TSA Update

Changes are taking place at US airports that could affect your travel plans. These are due to new scanners at TSA checkpoints.

These new CT scanners provide a 3D image inside your bags. The images can be moved around to give agents a better idea of the

contents. It’s one reason that some airports don’t make you remove a laptop or bag of liquids, gels, and aerosols anymore. At the same time, however, these new devices will definitely damage film. You’ll need more time at the airport to be hand checked.

The new scanners have a smaller opening than the older ones. If you try to

squeeze in an oversized bag, it might not fit and will have to be checked in.



Camera Clubs

The following has been circulating around some camera clubs. The author is unknown. The original source is unknown.

Some clubs are built around helping photographers grow. Others are built around helping photographers score.

There is nothing wrong with competition. Competition can challenge us and sometimes push us to improve. The problem starts when the score becomes more important than the photograph.

That's when photographers begin asking...

- *Will this score well?*
- *What do judges like?*
- *How many points did it get?*
- *What place did it finish?*

Instead of asking:

- *Why did I make this photograph?*
- *What caught my eye?*
- *What was I trying to say?*
- *How can I make it stronger?*

After a while, photographers stop making photographs for themselves and start making photographs for judges. The images may score well, but they all start looking the same...

- *The same subjects.*
- *The same processing.*
- *The same formulas.*

Want to know what kind of club you're in? Listen to the conversations. Do members freely share knowledge? Do beginners receive encouragement? Do photographers talk about light, composition, storytelling, and vision?

Or do they spend most of their time talking about judges, scores, and rankings?

If you find yourself in a club that focuses heavily on scoring, you don't have to quit. You don't have to compete. Go for the programs. Go for the field trips. Go for the friendships. Go for the learning possibilities.

Seek out people who simply want to have fun with their photography. Seek out people who are excited to learn. Seek out people who freely share what they know. Seek out people who leave a meeting talking about images instead of scores. Build your own circle if you have to.

A judge sees your image for a few seconds. You lived it. You saw the light. You made the photo. That has value before anyone gives it a number.

A ribbon is nice. A better photographer is even nicer.

What do you think?

Send any comments—about the article or the Club—to [<pwccny@aol.com>](mailto:pwccny@aol.com)

Test Yourself

Predicting Exposure

Here's something you should try the next time you pick up your camera to go shooting.

Before you even raise your camera, look at the scene and ask yourself:

- What shutter speed would freeze (or blur) the subject?
- What aperture would give me the depth of field that I want?
- What ISO will complete the exposure?



Only after making your prediction should you check your camera.

How close were you to what the camera indicated?

At first, you'll probably be off by quite a bit.

But after repeating this simple exercise a few times, something interesting will happen...

You begin to *feel* the light.



Happy Birthday USA

Our nation celebrated its 250th birthday on July 4th, 2026. There were fireworks, the Times Square ball dropped (for the first time not on a New Year's Eve), the tall ships sailed up the Hudson River, and an unknown number of large and small events took place all around the country.

And, of course, Park West Camera Club members shot many of these events.

Here are some of them...



July 4th Flags

© Bruce Byers



NYC Fireworks

© Cindy Walpole



Tall Ship on the Hudson

© Eliot Nierman

Continued on next page



Celebrating July 4th
© Evelyn Appel



Liberty
© Christine Doyle



Approaching the GW Bridge
© Betsy Currier



July 4th Flyover
© Jill Greiss

Continued on next page



Bicentennial Baby Turns 50
© Larry Rubin



Battle Harbor, Labrador, July 4th
© Richard Borowsky



July 4th German Tall Ship
© Sonia Durante



Montage - Columbus Fireworks
© Steve Mullen

Continued on next page



FDNY Water Display
© Will Aimesbury



Red Sky at Night
© Chuck Pine

Street Photography Monthly

Each month, for the next year or so (or until interest in this activity dies down), *Photo Notes* will ask Park West Camera Club members to submit one image with a specific street photography theme.

Please submit one (and only one) image which fills the bill. Size your image as you would for competitions...

- 72ppi resolution
- 2,000px on the longest side
- maximum file size of 2MB

Send your image to
<pwccny@aol.com>

This month's theme is...*Reflections*. After a rain shower, or in front of glass buildings, or anywhere else for that matter, look for reflections. Capture the city in puddles or mirrored on shiny surfaces, offering a different perspective.



"30 Days Hath September"

by Evelyne Appel

Children, time to go back to school, but for us retired people, time to travel, time to take pictures.

A visit to our most famous presidents is an adventure. Carved in stone on Mount Rushmore in South Dakota, they look so majestic, Abraham Lincoln in particular. Nearby the statue of Crazy Horse exudes strength.

If you live in the American West, come to New York, New York and walk on the most famous bridge in the world, sometimes for sale..., the Brooklyn Bridge.

If you live in the East, go to California and ride on Route One. Stop, enjoy, and shoot spectacular Big Sur.

In New Mexico's White Sands National Park, you can see white dunes composed of gypsum crystals creating a great natural wonder.

America is a beautiful country to visit in September.



All images
© Evelyne Appel



Creative Ideas to Try

Whether you're traveling the world or photographing close to home, these simple ideas can help spark fresh inspiration and strengthen your photographic eye.

- *Photograph local events and traditions* – parades, fairs, concerts, and farmers markets offer storytelling opportunities
- *Include seasonal details* – ice cream stands, piles of leaves, snowmen, help create images that give a sense of time and place
- *Watch the weather radar* – downpours, blizzards, and the like produce dramatic situations and incredible light
- *Create images, not records* – instead of documenting a place, make images that tell how the place felt
- *Color Challenge* – choose a single color and spend a week shooting it

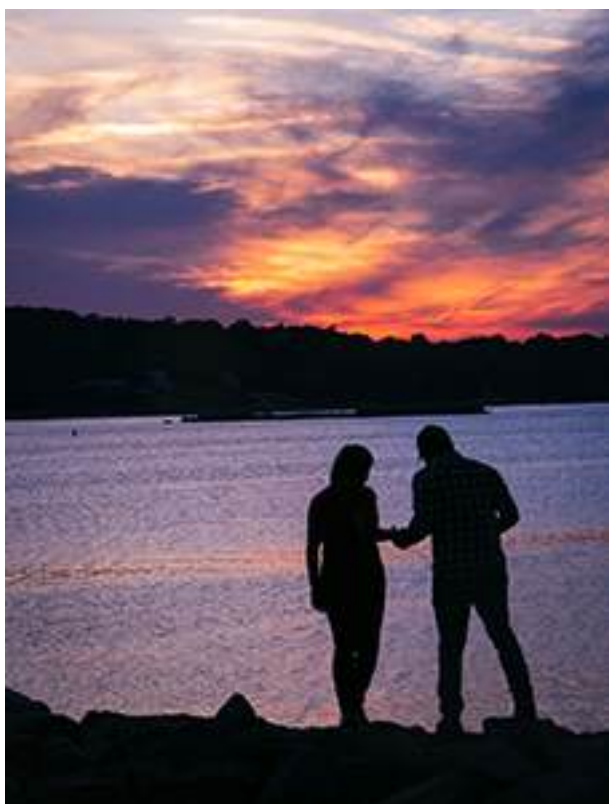
Expanding Visions 32

Assignment #2

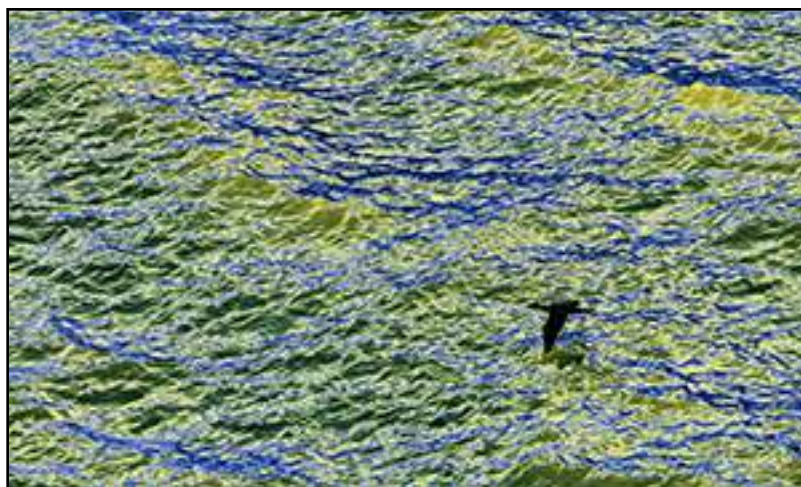
This year's Expanding Visions class, the 32nd, had four basic assignments. The second was *Back Light* in which we had to shoot our subjects with the light coming from behind them to achieve either a silhouette or rim-light effect. Twenty Club members showed up for the shooting session at Pier 57 (although not all of them submitted images for the review) and another 10 PWCCers shot the assignment on their own. Here are some of their images...



© Steve Mullen



© Janet Susin



© Cindy Walpole

Continued on next page



© Elena Pierpont



© Bruce Byers



© David Miller



© Florence Forman

Continued on next page



© Helen Pine



© Christine Doyle



© Raylie Dunkel



© Evelyne Appel

Continued on next page



© Lilette Hubilla



© Sonia Durante



© Will Aimesbury



© Marlene Schonbrun

Continued on next page



© Dov Bieber



© Elayne Dix



© Marilyn Thypin



Jil, Greiss

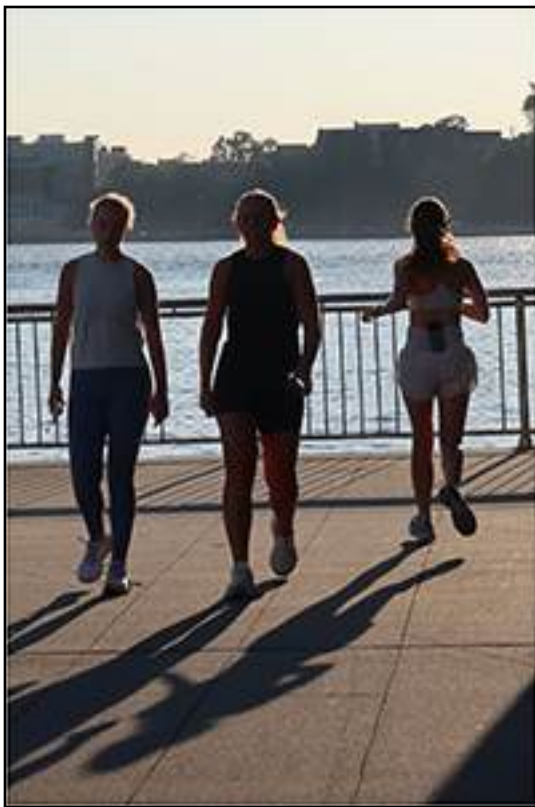
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© Peggy Winkelman



© Tom Quackenbush



© Jay Bitkower



© Justine Carson

Continued on next page



© Karen Corrigan



© Renée Harper



© Ann Broder

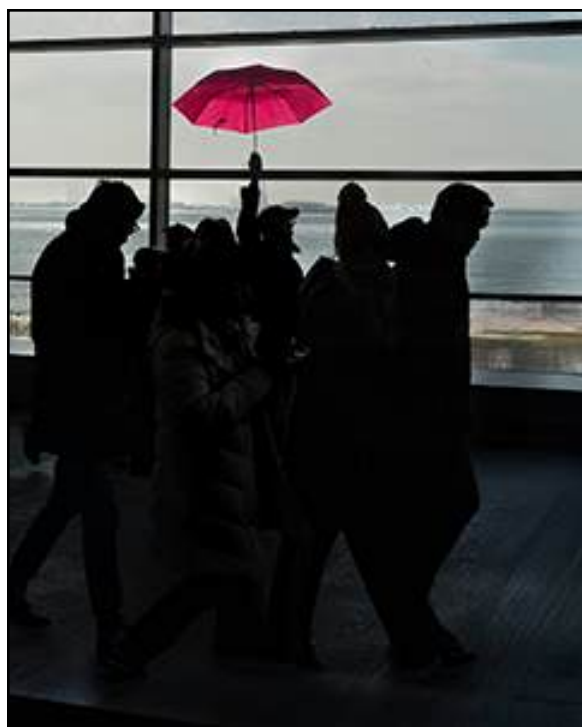


© Julie Foehrenbach

Continued on next page



© Betsy Currier



© Michael Iannuzzi



© Chuck Pine

Epson and Mac

Do you use an Epson printer or scanner with your Mac computer? If you do, you might be in for a big surprise...



Your devices might not work any more!

MacOS 28, which will be released this fall (if it isn't already out when you read this), is not compatible with the current Epson drivers.

But you do have some options...

- You can do nothing and wait for Epson to update their software to work with Apple

- Silicon and download it to your machine
- You can skip the upgrade to MacOS 28 and keep using your older operating system (but this might cause other disadvantages in your computer usage)
- You can switch to a different brand of



printer that is Mac compatible

Whichever path you choose to take, it would be a good idea to check with the Apple store and/or the salespeople at your favorite photo store (B&H, for example) to get the latest information and their suggestions.

New Camera Club

The *Camera of the Month Club* is a friendly, creative, and inclusive space for emerging to mid-career photographers to share their work, receive critical feedback and support, and develop their portfolios.

They meet on the last Wednesday of every month at Soho Photo Gallery at 6:30 p.m. You're welcome to join a meeting and check them out. After that, if you come back to a 2nd and future meetings, you can join as a member and begin showing prints. (It's \$12.50/month for dues to cover club costs.)

There are opportunities to exhibit work in group shows and social media. They offer friendly critiques, assignments, and organize get-togethers. They host monthly photo walks and an annual retreat in upstate NY.

They require you to attend at least 60% of their meetings and to show prints at least twice in a calendar year.

You can check them out at www.cameraofthemonthclub.com and on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube.

Dear Diary

by Julie Wosk

(from the "Metropolitan Diary" section of the *New York Times* several years ago)

I've been busy planning my wedding and on a recent Saturday had various chores to do. Riding on an M5 bus, I juggled a bag with stationery I planned to return and another bag that held my cell phone. At my stop, I hopped off with the bag of stationery but realized I had left the bag with the cell phone on the bus. Who would find it, I wondered. What would my next bill be?

I found a phone booth and a cheerful phone company representative told me not to worry; she would suspend service. She also told me I would have to file a police report. It was all very depressing: no phone, a trip to the police station and still a long list of tasks to do. I walked to the stationery store, completed my errand there and then browsed in another shop. When I left, night had fallen, the streets



looked dark and forlorn and I headed back toward home.

I looked down the block for buses, didn't see any and decided to walk to the next stop. As I was walking, a bus slid by me slowly and I held up my hand hoping it would stop. It did and I bounded up the steps, noticed it was an M5 and asked the driver how to enquire about lost property at the M.T.A.

"I left my travel bag on the bus," I started to explain. "You mean this one?" he asked, and reached beside his seat.

I was dumbfounded.

By pure chance I had encountered the same bus I had left nearly an hour before. It had wended its way downtown and continued on its circuit, traveling uptown. I rode along feeling a strange sense of euphoria.

Elements on Sale

Adobe's *Photoshop Elements* 2026 was seen on sale this month at na 40% discount from its original price of

\$99.99 for only \$59.99.

Wow!

If you're interested, this might be a good time to make the investment.



Curtain Raisers

Park West Camera Club has eight guest photographers scheduled to present to us this coming year—one each and every month from October through May. And, prior to each guest's presentation, we start the meeting with a short program by a Club member. We call these *Curtain Raisers*.



Basically, a curtain raiser is a digital slide show of less than five minutes. Yours can have a theme,... or not. It can have a sound track (narration and/or music),... or not. But, please, you must not go over the five minute limit!!!

If you are interested, send an email to Helen Pine, our Corresponding Secretary, at [<pwccny@gmail.com>](mailto:pwccny@gmail.com) Let her know which month(s) are best for you. (Check the schedule on page 4 of this issue of *Photo Notes* for the exact dates.)



East Ayershire Life

David Miller, our Club member in Scotland, publishes a monthly blog of images depicting his life in the highlands. Check it out at [<www.cairngormslife.com>](http://www.cairngormslife.com)



The war memorial in the Ayr town centre park had an exhibition to make people aware of soldiers of Ayr that died in the battle of the Somme in the First World War.

Most of the Maple shrub in the garden is great shades of green except this one branch showing Autumn colours already.



I bet this snail was a bit warm in it's shell today.

All images
© David Miller



The insects seem to know that this may be a short break in the rainy weather so they are all out in force this morning.



Park West is a member of the New York Metro Area Camera Council, Inc.—an umbrella group for camera clubs and photographers in the New York city area. Its last monthly meeting was held on July 8th. (There was no representation from PWCC at this meeting.) The condensed minutes may be found on the next page in this issue of *Photo Notes*.

The next meeting is slated for September 9th 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>



Night Photo “Don’ts”

Don’t Shoot Wide Open

While settings like $f-1.4$, $f-1.8$, and $f-2.0$ let in more light, they also reduce corner sharpness and increase optical imperfections. Try stopping down by at least one or two stops. The small loss in light is often worth the increase in image quality.



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 awarded a grant from Greene County to create a series of portraits of the people of Catskill. The exhibit opened in May and will run until (ran through—depending on when you read this) August 26th.

The portrait project, though, is continuing. I would love to invite PWCC members to come up to Catskill and get their portraits taken. I realize that most are not from the Catskill area, but 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



Minutes: July 14, 2026

The main topic of discussion was about...

Programs to encourage active member participation

- Once a month training - 15 minutes prior to a member program club members present a 15 minute training session on a photographic basic such as DoF, exposure, etc. based on requests.
- One photo/member processing - one photo is sent to all members who process it - followed by a meeting to share the various results.
- Program an "expert" twice: first for an educational program on how their images are created, second, after the members have time to use those methods in their own photos, the expert returns to critique the members's images - dialogue between the photographers and expert. No scoring! Critiques only!
- Members' images are submitted to the club (however each club does this) on a specific date to be sent to an expert when the expert wants to view them before returning.
- Many clubs are reducing the number of competitions.
- End of Year competitions are not affected but are

handled differently. Enter any photo previously submitted but did not win. No change can be made on the original version submitted (universal). Photo of the Year chosen (either by paid judges or the members). Scoring varies: 3 judges' scores are combined, members judge on prepared scoring forms

- Humor goes a long way!
- One club holds "The Battle of the Sixes!" Only photos that received the lowest score (in many clubs that's a six) are submitted. Members score/critique those images - did they really earn such a low score or was the judge off base?
- Increase in-person events to promote camaraderie
- Field trips - a main reason new members join. Trips should be arranged where members wish to go. It's more effective to ask the members at a meeting (either in-person or zoom). Organizer attempts getting discount group entry fees, arrival prior to official venue opening, meal reservations for the group (restaurant should have varied menu to meet various dietary needs, hopefully separate checks), parking info, etc. Group fees should be collected in advance for two reasons - attendance is more reliably

guaranteed and entry is more efficient when one person pays for all than when the group has to wait for each to enter. Pre-set itinerary of events when trip is announced

- Schedule both in-person and zoom meetings, often dependent on weather or geographic distances of members.
- Non-photography meals in restaurants or picnics

Night Photo "Don'ts"

Don't Forget White Balance
Auto White Balance struggles under artificial and/or mixed lighting. Streetlights, LEDs, neon signs, and moonlight all produce different color casts. Instead...

- shoot RAW
- experiment with WB settings
- fine-tune the colors in post-processing
- try converting to B&W



Way to Go, Jeff!

Club member (and ExCom Member-at-Large Jeff Langford) sold six of his images at an auction held by the *Catskill Mountain Foundation* up in Hunter, New York. The CMF is a non-profit corporation dedicated to arts, culture, and educational enhancements in the northern Catskills.

Congrats, Jeff!



Schoharie Sunset

© Jeff Langford

On another front, three of Jeff's photos have been accepted as part of a group exhibit at the Terrain Gallery, located at 141 Greene Street in the City. The Terrain is the art gallery and educational center based on the concepts of Aesthetic Realism—the relationship of art and people's lives.

Congrats, Jeff, again!



Palouse Sunrise

© Jeff Langford

Becket Arts Center

The Becket Arts Center, located in Berkshire County, MA, is holding its members show thru September 13th.

Included in this exhibit is an image by Park West member, Julie Wosk. The gallery is open Wednesday to Sunday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Why not drop in if you are in the neighborhood?



Ammonite Medley 1

© Julie Wosk

County Fair Winners

Club member Charles Levin won three ribbons at the annual Ventura County Fair photography exhibit. In the Street Photography/Black and White category, he got a Blue Ribbon for *Pensive in SoHo* and an Honorable Mention for *96th Street Subway Stairwell*. In Adult Portrait/Color, he got the Blue Ribbon for *Sue & Milo*. All of the entries were in the Advanced Amateur Division.

Congrats, Charles.



All images
© Charles Levin



The Journey Home

by Chuck Pine

Helen and I drive to and from our cold-weather home every December and May / June. (Actually, I do all the driving.) This year we planned our trip so we would arrive home a few days before the Club's Otto Litzel Memorial Dinner. What follows here (and in the next several issues of *Photo Notes*) is my daily journal...

Day One/Tuesday/June 2nd

The car was packed with the three Cs—cameras, computers, and clothes (in their order of importance)—with a few other items thrown in. It was exactly two p.m. when we pulled out of our driveway. The sky was overcast and the temperature was 90°. In a few minutes we were on the Florida Turnpike heading north towards our first stop—Daytona Beach. It's one of our favorite stops since we get to drive on seven miles of beach. We photograph the waves, and the people, but mostly the birds.



There was very little traffic on the road. I was sure we'd make the trip in the usual three hours or thereabouts.

Boy, was I wrong!



Before long it started to drizzle,... then rain,... and then came the torrential downpour. Lightning, thunder, and sheets of water. Visibility dropped to only a few feet and the traffic slowed to a crawl. Fortunately, this passed after about fifteen minutes of white-knuckle driving.

But the saga continued. We encountered this same horrid situation several more times. The third time included hail. The stones were bouncing off the car's metal roof and glass windows. It was like being in an apocalyptic movie.

We finally made it to our destination, passed the famed speedway, and headed to the beach entrance. When we got to the tollbooth, no one was there. The gate was open, so we drove in. The usual people- and car-strewn stretch of sand and water was virtually empty. The storms had chased all but the very bold (or very stupid) away. We started our drive. We were not disappointed. The

shoreline was rife with snowy egrets, laughing gulls, pigeons, fish crows, and one yellow-crowned night heron, among other species.



In about an half hour, the beach patrol drove up to us and said that they were closing the beach early because of the approaching storm. We headed to our hotel for the night—the Hampton Inn Beachfront.

After check-in, we decided not to reenact Noah and his family's adventure and stayed at the HIB to have dinner in their bar / restaurant located on an outside deck overlooking the ocean. Luckily, very luckily, it was covered and had plastic roll-down windows to protect us from the next deluge.



And off to bed.



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* are available online and may be downloaded.
- **Organization**—features the latest PDF files containing membership information including the PWCC 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. 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, 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 for 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.

iPhone Trick

Here's a little-known iPhone photography trick...

Instead of tapping the shutter button, hold it down and quickly slide it to the left when shooting moving stuff. Your phone will switch to *Burst Mode* and take a rapid sequence of images.

You can then choose the best single frame(s).

That Was a Lie

In 1908, a well-dressed man walked into a cotton mill in Lancaster, South Carolina, and told the foreman he was there to photograph the machinery.

That was a lie!

His name was Lewis Hine. He worked for the National Child Labor Committee. Getting caught meant being thrown out. Sometimes it meant a beating. Men doing what he was about to do had been threatened with worse.

So he played along. He told the foreman he was there to document the equipment. Then, the way he usually worked, he asked if one of the children could step in beside it. Just to show the scale.

A girl stepped into the frame. Sadie Pfeifer. 48 inches tall. She had been working there half a year.



Hine never had to write a word about wages, or hours, or what it does to a child to stand at a machine all day. The photo

said it all. One small body, swallowed by a wall of cold steel that runs on and on, right out of the frame.

He took 100s of photos like this one. He hid his notes on cards in his pocket and he measured the children's heights against the buttons on his coat.

Then he put the images in front of the public. On posters. In reports. At conventions. By 1914, thirty-five states had moved to restrict child labor. *[There were 48 states back then.]* A stack of photographs did what years of speeches couldn't.

That's the skill most photographers underestimate. It goes beyond finding a dramatic subject. It's about building a story so completely into a single frame that the person looking at it gets everything, instantly, with no caption needed.

Smartphone Photo Guide

Do you take a lot of photos with your phone?

Many of us do.

I thought the poor results I got were due to the hardware. Then I learned that much of the image is built in software after you press the shutter, and the problems I'd been blaming on the phone started to make sense.

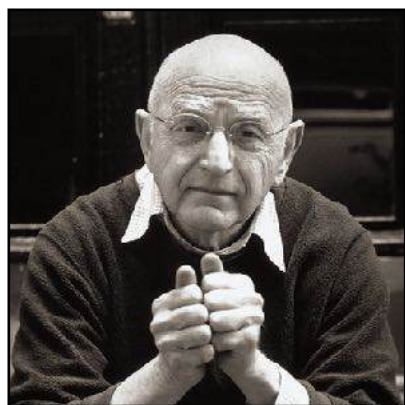
The [Smartphone Photography Guide](#) from PictureCorrect is built around that reality. It's a 100+ page guide covering how phones actually process images and what you can do to work with it instead of against it.

You'll learn...

- ☑ When Auto works and when Pro or Manual mode gives you cleaner results
- ☑ How to shoot in low light, at night, and in mixed lighting
- ☑ Techniques for motion blur, light trails, and long exposures
- ☑ Editing workflows that improve a photo without overcooking it
- ☑ A good chunk of the guide covers camera features most people never find like gesture shortcuts, quick toggles that change image quality, and settings buried several menus deep that are worth turning on.

The price is \$189 **BUT** it is often on sale for less than \$30.

In Passing



Duane Michals was one of the great photographic innovators of the last century. He was widely known for his work with series of images, with multiple exposures, and with including text in his photos—all of these long before they became popular with others.

Duane had shared his work with Park West on three or four occasions over the last 50 years or so. He passed away this past June at the age of 94.

Here a few of the images for which he will be remembered...



All images
© Duane Michaels

LensTrails

LensTrails is an iPhone app for photographers allowing them to collect and organize various photo locations and helping them to plan shoots. It shows current weather conditions including a 24-hour cloud graph (that helps decide visit timing), wind speed and its direction, rain risk, humidity, visibility, sunrise/sunset times, and a 5-day forecast.

LensTrails provides short-term and long-term shoot planning. It suggests visit



windows using location type plus the above-mentioned data. It also estimates the best month and time to return.

LensTrails was created by Jerome Bei, a hobbyist shooter

and president of Photo-Club Déifferdeng in Luxembourg.

More information about *LensTrails* can be found at www.mwm.ai/apps/lenstrails/6788136488>

It may be downloaded from the Apple App Store www.apps.apple.com/us/app/lenstrails/id6788136488>

Lots of *LensTrails* tutorials are on YouTube.

LensTrails has a 7-day free trial. After the trial, an active subscription is required to continue using the app.

My Best Tip

The following tip comes from a Gettle Photography email. [Steve Gettle is a Michigan-based wildlife/nature photographer and leader of photography workshops.]

Without question, the single best move I made in my 40-year photography career was joining a camera club in my 20s.

Back then I thought I had it figured out—good gear, accurate exposures, friends and family who loved my images. Walking into that first meeting humbled me. I learned I didn't even know what I didn't know.

The club taught me the art behind the mechanics. Technical skill is only part of photography; composition,



storytelling, and a vision come from critique and conversation with people who speak the language of the craft. Honest, sometimes brutal feedback pushed me farther than any compliment ever could.

A camera club is a turbocharger: you pick up gear tips, discover new locations, learn techniques and post-processing tricks, and—most importantly—receive feedback that stretches your work.

It's also where friendships and collaborations form. I still keep my membership despite a wild travel schedule, and I've traveled the world with people I met in clubs decades ago. I give

free talks to clubs around the world whenever I can as a way of giving back.

If you're serious about getting better, do this simple thing: Google "camera clubs near me," visit a few, and go to a meeting. If the first group doesn't fit, try another. Your photography—and your future self—will thank you.

If you are looking to push yourself in new creative direction—join a camera club!



Where to Go

Sunrise Sunset

Compiled by the European photo-printing company Cewe, in partnership with travel photographer Bella Falk, these destinations are the best spots in the world to capture, sunrises and / or sunsets. The choices are based on visual appeal, accessibility, and, of course, their potential for striking sunrise and sunset photographs. They include all kinds of landscapes, too, from mountains to deserts to the sea. Here are the best of the best...



Maasai Mara National Reserve
Kenya



Tamarindo
Costa Rica



Paphos
Cyprus



U Bein Bridge
Myanmar



Santa Monica
California



Marsala Salt Pans
Italy



Halifax Waterfront
Nova Scotia



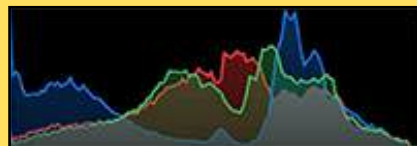
Tikal National Park
Guatemala



Merzouga
Morocco

Night Photo "Don'ts"

Don't Ignore the Histogram
The camera's LCD can be misleading in the dark. It often makes photos appear brighter than they really are. Instead of judging exposure by the screen alone, check the histogram. It helps determine if the highlights are clipped or if the shadows contain any usable detail.



AF Failure

Autofocus is great!

It is fast. It is accurate. It allows us to shoot things that were impossible to capture back in the day. But, autofocus is not perfect!

First, a little bit of background is required. There are different technologies upon which autofocus systems work (the first three are called passive systems)...

- *Phase Detection* splits the incoming light and compares the “phases” to instantly determine if the subject is in front of, or behind, the focal plane. It is incredibly fast and excels at tracking motion.
- *Contrast Detection* evaluates the image sensor and adjusts the lens until the contrast between adjacent pixels is maximized. It is slower but highly accurate for stationary subjects.

- *Hybrid AF* combines both Phase Detection (for fast initial acquisition and tracking) and Contrast Detection (for precision).
- *Active AF* uses an external emitter (such as an infrared beam or ultrasonic sound wave) to bounce off the subject and measure distance physically.

There are three situations in which autofocus has trouble honing in on the subject...

- shooting through some foreground elements
- low light situations
- thick atmosphere such as dust, snow, or even rain

The solution to these three situations is switching from Autofocus to Manual Focus. All cameras are different. Many have a switch on the lens or camera body that you must change. Some have a menu choice you must select. Check your owner’s manual.



Topaz for Mobile

Topaz Labs recently released *Topaz for Mobile*. It is an all-in-one app for iPhone and iPad. (Is the version for Android far behind?)



- upscale low-resolution images
- recover blurry details
- batch process
- sharpen
- denoise
- and much more

Plans start at \$9/month



Victorian Photos



When we think of people in the Victorian era—about 1837 to 1901—it's hard not to see images of rigid poses and serious faces—people frozen in time. After all, these are the images depicted in virtually every photograph from then.



But thanks to one college student with a crush and a

hidden camera, we have a much more intimate glimpse into Victorian life.

In 1893, Carl Størmer was 19 years old and studying mathematics at the Royal Frederick University (now the University of Oslo). He did what so many men his age do—he fell in love with a girl. But, he was too shy to speak to her.

Wanting to capture a secret snapshot of his love interest, Størmer purchased a *C.P. Størmer Concealed Vest Spy Camera*: a device with a lens that can fit through a button hole and a cable release that can be pulled into a pocket, allowing the user to take photos on the sly.

Størmer produced over 500 photographs of Victorians as we've never seen them before. Regular, everyday people grinning, relaxed, tipping their hats, eyeing Størmer suspiciously—a far cry from the posed and formal portraits we see in history books.



Panorama of the Month



Bikers © Chuck Pine

Retouching Portraits

Do you shoot a lot of portraits? If you do, you'll have to master the techniques associated with *retouching*. The problem is that retouching is a tricky skill to accomplish. It's also a time-consuming process. Using the usual software programs, it can take hours to fine-tune a single photo, smoothing skin, covering up blemishes, and getting the lighting and color balance just right.

You might want to check out what many consider to be the best retouching software program out there, Anthropic Technology's *PortraitPro*. (It was formerly known as *Portrait Professional* when it was first released back in 2006. It's now up to version 24.)

PortraitPro uses advanced AI (artificial intelligence) to handle all sorts of retouching tasks, from skin smoothing to hair editing, and it even has



the ability to reduce glare and reflections in subjects' glasses. In short, it can be your primary go-to solution for retouching your portraiture.

PortraitPro comes in three different packages at three price points...

- **Standard:** At \$65.95, this stand-alone program is the least expensive option. It unlocks access to all of the core features of *PortraitPro*, including automatic age and gender detection, AI skin smoothing, face sculpting, feature enhancements,

makeup controls, 3D lighting effects, and so on.

- **Studio:** At \$99.95, you can enjoy all the benefits of the Standard software, plus RAW file support, and the ability to use *PortraitPro* as a Photoshop plug-in or as an external editor with Lightroom.
- **Studio Max:** At \$199.95, this most expensive option is primarily aimed at photo studios and teams, or users who intend to process large numbers of images using batch processing.

Night Photo "Don'ts"

Don't Use Autofocus

Autofocus systems rely on contrast. At night there's not enough light to create sufficient contrast. The camera will hunt back and forth or lock onto the wrong subject entirely.

Instead, switch over to manual focus and use the camera's live view function with magnification.



For more info on autofocus, see the article AF Failure on page 50 of this issue of *Photo Notes*.



Where to Go

Boardwalks

With summer crowds fading away, it's the perfect time to explore some of the many boardwalks that are within a day trip's reach of the Big Apple. Here are a few of them to explore...



Ocean Beach Park
New London, CT



Silver Sands State Park
Milford, CT



Salisbury Beach Boardwalk
Salisbury, MA



Asbury Park Boardwalk
Asbury Park, NJ



Atlantic City Boardwalk
Atlantic City, NJ



Riegelmann Boardwalk
Coney Island, NY



Rockaway Beach Boardwalk
The Rockaways, NY



Night Photo "Don'ts"

Don't Always Use 100 ISO
Shooting at ISO 100 might be the best choice during the day. At night, though, it can force shutter speeds that are far too slow. Increasing your ISO produces a cleaner final image because it allows you to use a faster shutter speed. Don't be afraid of ISO 800, 1,600, or even 3,200 if the situation calls for it. A little noise is usually much easier to fix than motion blur.



Adobe Acquiring Topaz



The following is adapted from an article by Matt Klosowsky <www.mattk.com>

Recently (mid June 2026) Adobe announced that it intends to acquire Topaz Labs. Assuming the deal gets regulatory approval, Topaz will become part of Adobe in the latter half of 2026. (Adobe has already partnered with Topaz by integrating some of its AI models into Photoshop and Lightroom.)

First, I think a lot of people automatically assume that every Topaz feature will magically appear in Lightroom next week. But I doubt that's the case and remember that the press release reads "The transaction is expected to close in the second half of 2026". In the short term, I don't think you'll see any changes. After the transaction closes, Topaz Labs customers can expect continued support and investment in future innovation and Topaz Labs products will remain available as standalone offerings through the company's website. Could this change someday? Sure. But today

there's nothing indicating that Adobe plans to eliminate the standalone products.

This is where things could get interesting. Imagine opening Lightroom or Photoshop and finding:

- Better AI sharpening.
- Better AI noise reduction.
- Better image upscaling.
- Faster local AI processing.
- Higher quality detail enhancement.



Today's workflow for many photographers looks something like this:

- Lightroom/Photoshop
- Topaz
- Back to Lr/Ps

If Adobe can bring more of those enhancement tools directly into Lightroom and Photoshop, that makes editing simpler.

Software doesn't make great photographs. Great photographs still come from:

- Good light.
- Strong composition.
- Interesting focal points.
- Intentional and tasteful editing.

Whether Adobe owns Topaz or not doesn't change those fundamentals. It may make certain tasks faster, or improve image quality and workflow. But it won't replace the creative decisions that actually make an image compelling.

Night Photo "Don'ts"

Don't Forget Composition

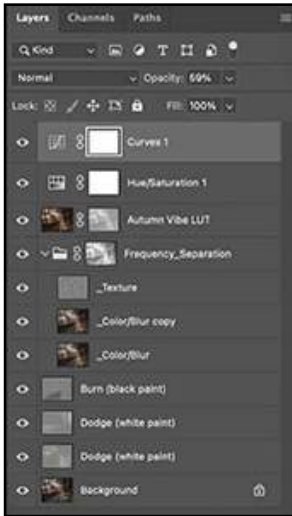
Darkness makes it tempting to point your camera at the brightest subject and press the shutter. Instead, slow down and evaluate the scene. Ask yourself...

- Is there an interesting foreground?
- Can leading lines improve the composition?
- Would reflections improve the image?
- Would moving a few feet create a better angle?



Layers

In the area of post-processing, layers is/are a revolutionary concept that has transformed the way photographers work. Here's are some of the ways to use layers in your editing workflow to allow for more complex and creative edits...



- *Non-Destructive Editing*
Layers allow you to make changes to your images without altering the original photo. This means you can always revert back to the original image if needed. It's a safer, more flexible way of doing things.
- *Selective Adjustments*
With layers, you can apply edits to just a part of your image. For example, you might want to increase the brightness of your subject without affecting the foreground or background. You can do this by creating adjustment layers and using a masks to select where the adjustment should be applied.

- *Blending Images or Effects*
You can use layers to blend different images together, or to apply different effects to different parts of an image. For example, you could replace the sky in an image with a new sky on a new layer and blending it with the original photo.

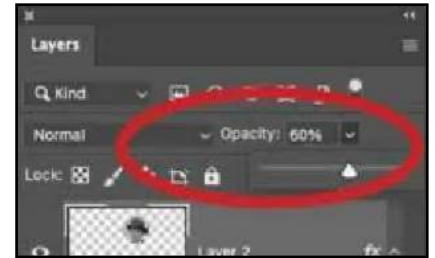


- *Making Complex Compositions*
If you're creating a complex composition—for example a photo montage—you can use layers to manage the different elements of your composition. Each element can be placed on a separate layer, which you can then move, transform, or edit independently of the others.



- *Adjustment Layers*
You can use adjustment layers to apply effects to your entire image, or just to selected parts of it. For example, you could use an

adjustment layer to increase the contrast of your entire image, or to change part of the image to monochrome.



- *Layer Opacity*
Each layer has an opacity setting, which controls how transparent it is. This lets you decide how much of the layer's effect is visible, and how it blends with the layers beneath it.
- *Layer Blending Modes*
Control how the colors and tones in one layer interact with those in the layers beneath it. This can be used to create a wide range of creative effects.
- *Layer Masks*
Layer masks are a powerful tool for selectively hiding and revealing portions of your layer. The principle is simple: black conceals and white reveals. Painting with black on a layer mask will hide the associated part of the layer, while painting with white will reveal it. This non-destructive method is perfect for blending images, retouching, and creating sophisticated compositions.



Arizona Highways Winners

The Arizona Game and Fish Department has an annual photo contest. The winning image and 11 runners-up are featured in their yearly full-color calendar. Here are some of the images that will appear in the 2027 issue...



First Place
Monument Valley
© Jim Shoemaker



Second Place
Black-necked Stilt Chick
© Todd Wynia



Third Place
Desert Bighorn Sheep
© Beth Toussaint



Honorable Mention
Squirrel
© Jenny L Clark



Honorable Mention
Cactus
© Sean Parker

iPhone Awards

The IPPAWARDS has revealed the winners of its 19th annual competition. Chosen from thousands of entries across more than 140 countries, this year's images are a reminder that good photography comes down to the eye behind the camera, not the equipment. The winners and honorable mentions span 12 categories including Abstract, Animals, Architecture, Children, City Life, Landscape, Nature, Portrait, and Series. The images move from sunlit street corners to remote wilderness, and from playful portraits to sweeping cityscapes. Here are the some of the winners...



Grand Prize
© Robyn Jensen



Silver
© Arnold Plotnick



Bronze
© Catherine Wang



Gold
© Gellért Gombai



iPhone Camera Tip

by Helen Pine

The camera on an Apple iPhone gives you more than one way to skin the proverbial cat. In this case I'm referring to taking a picture.



Of course, you can always hit the virtual shutter button—shown in red above. That's what most of us do.



Another option is to use either of the *Volume buttons* on the side of the phone. This is easier than tapping that circle

You can also take an iPhone photo hands-free using built-in *Voice Control* by turning on the feature in your settings and using a simple command or custom phrase.

Here's how to set it up...

- Open the *Settings* app on your iPhone
- Tap *Accessibility* and select *Voice Control*
- Turn on the *Voice Control* switch. (A small microphone icon will appear in your status bar)
- Open the *Camera* app
- Say *Turn up the volume* or *Turn down the volume* to take the picture

It's that simple!

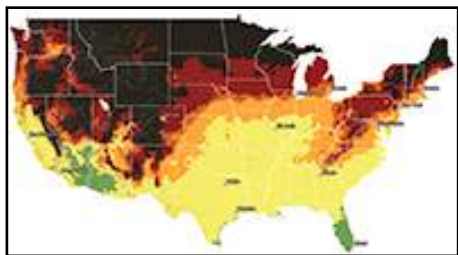
Travel Bans

The TSA (Transportation Security Administration) has strict rules about what can and cannot be packed in carry-on and checked luggage. We all know about guns and knives. We also know about water bottles and other liquids. But did you know about these travel restrictions?...

- Cordless curling irons - banned in checked baggage
- Cast iron cookware - banned in carry-ons
- Corkscrews with a blade - banned in carry-ons
- Bowling balls - banned in carry-ons
- Electronic cigarettes and vaping devices - banned in checked luggage
- Foam toy sword - banned in carry-ons
- Snow globes - banned in carry-ons if containing over 3.4 ounces of liquid
- Gel-type candles - banned in carry-ons
- Samsung Galaxy Note 7 phones - banned in carry-ons and checked luggage
- Screwdrivers longer than seven inches - banned in carry-ons
- Squishy toys - banned in carry-ons if containing over 3.4 ounces of gel or dough



Fall Photo Tips



Foliage Maps

The best fall landscape photos tend to be captured when the colors are at their peak. Use one of the many foliage maps websites to locate the highest color saturation. There are national maps, state maps, and even local maps. One favorite is <www.explorefall.com/fall-foliage-map> because it is all three rolled into one.



Shoot in Bad Weather

You can create moody autumn shots if you shoot when the sky is darkened by thick clouds. Fog and (light) rain also make for great shooting. Just make sure you bring protection for your camera and lens like a rain sleeve.

Use the Light

Direct sunlight (with the sun behind you) falling on autumn colors creates bright, saturated colors. Backlight (shooting into the sun) gives you rim effects



(white outlines), silhouettes, sunbeams, contrast, and star effects. And don't forget to try sidelight, as well.



Lens Choice

Use a wide angle lens to shoot grand scenes of color. A long lens lets you emphasize the patterns in leaves, bark, etc., plus it'll compress the scene to create a beautiful wall of trees. And don't forget close-up equipment (a macro lens, close-up filters, etc.) to get the details of autumn.



Aperture

Shoot autumn landscapes at narrow apertures, such as $f/8$ and smaller when you shoot

wide vistas. Create unique fall shots with a wide aperture, $f/2.8$ or $f/4$, to isolate the subject from the background.



ICM

Fall is a great time to try out intentional camera movement (moving your camera during a long exposure) to create abstract effects. Use a shutter speed of $\frac{1}{8}$ of a second as a starting point.



Look Up

Most fall photos are shot looking straight ahead of you. But don't forget to look up, or down, for interesting images.



Photo Shorts

Sony Bridges the Gap



It's been quite a while since Sony updated their top-of-the-line bridge camera. The RX10 V was announced in mid-July and should now be on the shelves. This latest model has a 20.1MP 1" sensor, a 24-600mm (35mm Equivalent) Zeiss *f*-2.4-4 zoom lens, 30 fps continuous shooting, and AI-powered autofocus and subject tracking. All this for \$2,298 (no tax if you buy from B&H using their payboo card. (FYI, previous models—before the current tariffs—sold for approximately \$500 less.)

Super-wide Zoom



Designed for photographers who demand a dramatic perspective, the *Tamron 12-20mm f-2.8 Lens* expands ultrawide image-capturing capabilities without sacrificing portability. This full-frame zoom features an expansive angle of view that captures landscapes, architecture, interiors, and more with exceptional edge-to-edge sharpness. Its bright, constant *f*-2.8 maximum aperture ensures excellent low-light performance and precise depth control throughout the entirety of the zoom range. Available in Sony E mount for \$1,699 and Nikon Z mount for \$1,799.

Long/Versatile/Affordable



Unlock extreme telephoto reach in a compact, affordable package with the *Sony FE 100-400mm f-5.6-8 OSS* lens. Perfect for sports, wildlife, and events, this telephoto lens is easy to use handheld thanks to its lightweight design and Optical SteadyShot image stabilization system. It accepts 1.4X and 2X teleconverters for even more reach. It comes with front and rear lens caps and a lens hood—all for only \$848.



Look Familiar?

This image was on display at AIPAD's (Association of International Photography Art Dealers) *Photography Show* at the Park Avenue Armory this past April.

Does it look familiar?

It should! It is an AI (artificial intelligence) colorized version of Ansel Adams' *Moonrise, Hernandez, New Mexico*. It's one of the



most celebrated and sought-after images, not just for its technical brilliance, but for its sense of timelessness. At

least, the black-and-white version is/was.

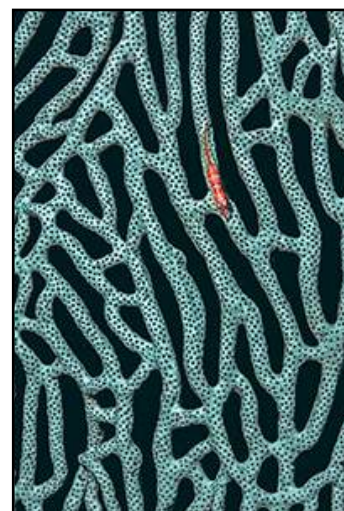
What do you think of this artificially colorized version of Ansel's work? Would he have approved? And, of course, just because you can do something, does that mean you should?

Hasselblad Masters

The prestigious Hasselblad Masters has recently announced its winners for its 2026 competition. Seven photographers have earned the title, signaling their technical mastery and strong artistic vision. They rose to the top from 108,000 submissions in 160 countries, with images in the following categories: Landscape, Architecture, Portrait, Art, Street, Wildlife, and Project/ /21 (a category dedicated to photographers aged 21 years or younger).



Landscape Winner
Ephemeral Visions
© Rohan Reilly



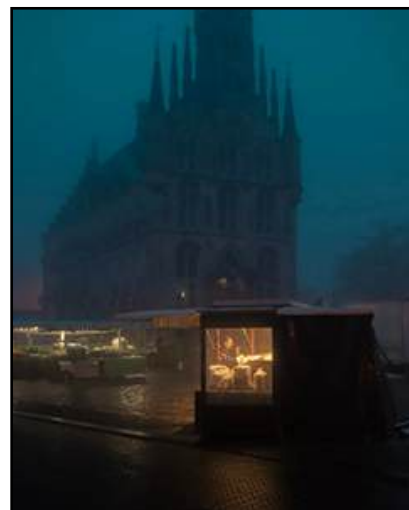
Wildlife Winner
The Forest
© Alfred Minnaar



Architecture Winner
Morning Ritual
© Kevin Boyle



Portrait Winner
Otherness
© Svetlana Jovanovic



Street Winner
Morning Ritual
© Gosse Bouma



Art Winner
Waste Colonialism
© Yudha Kusuma Putera

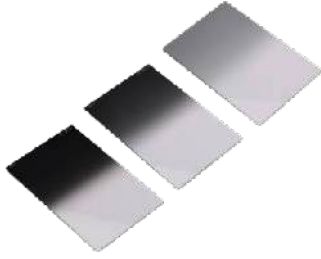


Project//21 Winner
Dwellers of the Night
© Panitbhand Paribatra Na Ayudhya

Using Your Camera

by Chuck Pine

Sunset Photography



1. Use graduated neutral density filters

A graduated neutral density filter (GND) is a tool that helps balance the exposure between the sky, which is often brighter during sunsets, and the darker foreground. A 2-stop soft-edge GND filter is often ideal for sunsets. It allows you to keep the rich, vibrant colors in the sky while bringing out the detail and exposure in the landscape.

2. Leverage the power of bracketing

As the light changes rapidly during sunset, a single exposure might not capture the scene's full range. Bracketing involves taking several shots of the same scene at different exposure levels—correctly exposed, underexposed, and overexposed. You can merge these shots into a single High Dynamic Range (HDR) image in post-processing. This allows you to capture the vibrant colors of the sunset and details in the highlights and shadows.

3. Experiment with silhouettes

As the sun sets, the dramatic light and shadows create the perfect scenario for silhouette photography. Position your subject between the camera and the setting sun, then underexpose your shot to render your subject as a dark outline against a vibrant, color-rich background. This technique adds a touch of mystery, making your sunset photos more captivating and storytelling. Silhouettes require clear, uncluttered compositions for the best effect.

PSA Journal

Beginning January 1, 2027, the monthly *PSA Journal* will switch to fully digital issues—no more print editions. Like many photography groups, they can no longer absorb the rising cost of printing. The shift to digital allows them to invest those resources back into programs that directly benefit their members.



The digital format of the *PSA Journal* opens the door to new

features they've never been able to offer in print—richer visuals, interactive content, easier access on any device, and a brand-new app experience.



Using Your Camera

by Chuck Pine

Street Shooting at Night



Living in the Big Apple offers us the opportunity to do lots of street photography. After all, there are over 6,300 miles of roads in the City and more than 12,000 miles of sidewalks.

Street shooting during the daylight hours has problems, but we encounter many more—especially technical ones—after the sun sets over New Jersey. We've got neon signs, dark shadows, moving people, bright streetlights, and ever-changing scenes.



Modern digital cameras—DSLRs, mirrorless, and the rest—are incredibly good at determining exposures in all sorts of conditions, but their auto modes can struggle badly in night street shooting.

Here are some suggested settings to get you started...

- Exposure Mode—manual
- Shutter Speed—1 / 250 sec.
- Aperture—*f*-2.8–*f*-4
- ISO—auto (up to ISO 6400)
- Focus—continuous AF / servo AF
- Stabilization—on
- Drive Mode—continuous / burst at low-speed
- Metering Mode—evaluative / matrix
- Exposure Compensation— $-\frac{1}{3}$ to -1 EV



Want a more creative shot?

- Lower the shutter speed to around $\frac{1}{8}$ sec. in order to intentionally blur moving people, vehicles, etc.



- Try using some of the techniques from *Expanding Visions* such as panning, zooming, and the like.



Happy Birthday NPS

The National Park Service will celebrate / celebrated its 110th birthday on August 25. This includes more than 400 National Parks, Preserves, Monuments, Lakeshores & Seashores, Recreation Areas, Historic Sites, Memorials, Rivers & Riverways, Scenic Trails, Historical Parks, Parks & Battlefields, Parkways, and National Wildlife Refuges.

To mark the milestone, entrance fees at all of the above facilities are waived for U.S. citizens and residents.

New York City has 11 NPS units, 8 of which are in Manhattan. These are...

- the Statue of Liberty
- 3 National Monuments—Castle Clinton, African Burial Ground, Stonewall
- 3 National Memorials—Federal Hall, Hamilton Grange, General Grant
- Theodore Roosevelt Birth-place National Historic Site

The 3 units in the outer boroughs are...

- Gateway National Recreation Area
- Governors Island National Monument
- Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge

Photo Shopping

by Chuck Pine

Photo Sharing Websites

If you're looking for a way to store, organize, and share your photos online, without running a photography business, here are some websites that are attractive, simple to use, and low-cost (or free)...



[Zonerama](#)

...is a completely free online gallery platform that includes unlimited storage and full-resolution uploads. It's fast, clean, and easy to use, making it a great option for sharing albums with friends or backing up your work. You can organize images into albums, control privacy with links or passwords, and display your photos in a simple, distraction-free layout.



[Google Photos](#)

...is one of the most widely used photo storage platforms, offering powerful search, automatic organization, and seamless mobile syncing. It's ideal for personal use, with AI-powered tagging, facial recognition, and easy album sharing.



[Flickr](#)

...is a popular choice for photographers who want to showcase their work publicly and connect with a community. It offers albums, tagging, and discovery features, making it more of a social platform than a client delivery tool. There

are paid plans for increased storage capacity.



[Amazon Photos](#)

...is a solid option for those already in the Amazon ecosystem, especially with a Prime membership. It offers generous (or unlimited) photo storage. It's simple, reliable, and good for backups and family sharing.

If you're thinking of selling your work, none of these websites are designed for that purpose. There's no way to present work in a branded, client-friendly format nor to sell your images.

Wonder 3

Did you ever wonder if you could sharpen a soft image, reduce its noise, and increase its resolution all at once?

Wonder 3 lets you do it all, and it's incredibly easy. The *Wonder 3* tool is found in the latest version of *Topaz Photo AI*. It combines *noise*

reduction, *sharpening*, and *up-scaling* into a single workflow, making it one of the quickest ways to improve image quality without having to manually apply multiple adjustments.



Photo Shopping

by Chuck Pine

Best Photo Editing Software

The following information is condensed from an article that appeared in *Shotkit*. You can read the full article at www.shotkit.com/photo-editing-software Here are some of the key takeaways...

- [Adobe Lightroom](#) is the best all-around photo editing software. Plans start at \$11.99/month for the annual billed monthly plan.
- [Luminar Neo](#) is excellent for beginners. It also makes a fantastic plugin for Lightroom and Photoshop users. Prices start at a one-time payment of \$119.
- [Adobe Photoshop](#) is the industry standard and is best for compositing and digital artistry. Plans start at \$22.99/month for the annual billed monthly plan.
- [Aftershoot](#) is the best AI photo editing tool for high-volume photographers. The end-to-end workflow (which includes unlimited AI Culling, Editing, and Retouching) starts at \$45/month, billed annually.
- [Imagen](#) is the best AI-powered editing option for consistent Lr workflows. 5¢/photo plus a minimum \$7/monthly fee OR a limitless plan for \$129/month billed annually.
- [DXO Photolab](#) makes the best RAW conversions. A lifetime license with no limits, subscriptions, or hidden fees for \$239.99.
- [Capture One](#) is the best choice for studio photographers. Plans start at \$18/month.
- [Zoner Studio](#) is an award-winning Lightroom alternative for Windows users. \$59 /year.
- [Darktable](#) is the best free Lightroom alternative but has an incredibly high learning curve. \$0.
- [Affinity Photo](#) is the best non-subscription Photoshop alternative. \$69.99 for a computer or \$18.49 for the iPad.



Slide Shooters

Anyone out there still shooting or working with slide film?

I've got two full boxes of *Spiratone 2x2" Snap-It Slide-mounts* that I'm giving away.

All you've got to do is let me know you want them and then come and get 'em.

There are 100 two-piece plastic slide mounts per box. They are a snap to use and fit every 35mm slide projector and tray system, including Kodak's carousels. You can even place two or three frames in the same mount for creative multiple exposure effects.

The same items are going for \$10 and up (mostly up) on eBay, Etsy, and the like.

Act fast. Call or email Chuck. First come, first sold.



PhotoShopping

by Chuck Pine

Faux Infrared

Black-and-white infrared images can be beautiful. Most of us create this look with digital cameras that have been converted to record the IR spectrum. This is an expensive and irreversible change to your camera.

But there's another way to create this look of light foliage and black skies without the expense of converting a digital camera. And you won't have to carry around two camera bodies when you go out shooting—one for IR and the other for real color.

Faux Infrared can be easily achieved using Lightroom, Adobe Camera RAW, or just about any other image processing software.

You'll need to start with an image that was shot on a bright sunny day while the sun was high in the sky. The image should contain blue skies with a few clouds, leafy trees and/or green grass.

Shoot the image in color (as you usually would). Then use **Lightroom** or **Adobe Camera RAW** to convert the image to black-and-white. Use the normal sliders to adjust **Whites**, **Blacks**, **Shadows**, **Highlights**, and **Clarity** to your liking.



You might have noticed that the **Color Mixer panel** has been renamed **B&W Mixer**. Move each of the color sliders, one at a time, in both directions. Some sliders will make no change at all, but others will lighten the foliage or darken the sky.

Voilà! Faux infrared has been achieved.

All images shot on the PWCC
field trip to The Palouse
© Chuck Pine



PhotoShopping

by Chuck Pine

B&W → Color

Have an image file that is a monochrome (aka black-and-white) that you'd like to turn into a color shot? Photoshop makes it quite an easy task. You'll need to have at least version 22.0 to accomplish this task using *neural filters*. (The current version is 27.x) Here's how to do it...

Open the B&W file as you normally would. In the **Menu Bar**, go to **Image > Mode** and make sure **RGB** is selected.

Next, in the **Menu Bar** go to **Filter > Neural Filters**. This will open a new panel with all of Photoshop's Neural Filters. Click on the **All Filters** tab, scroll down until you reach the **Color** section and select **Colorize**. [Note—If you see a cloud icon next to it, you'll have to download the **Colorize Filter**. Don't worry, you just have to click on it to start the download. It won't take long.]

As soon the **Colorize Filter** is downloaded, or you click on it, Photoshop will use its default settings, and you'll see the result applied directly to the image. (This is just a preview since you haven't accepted the edit yet.)



If you like it as it is, simply choose the desired **Output Option** (your choices are as a layer, or a layer with a mask, as a smart filter, or as a new document) and click **OK**.



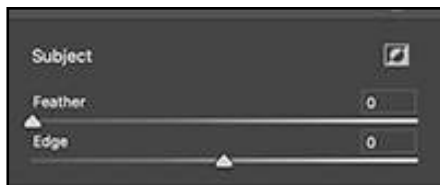
However, the great thing when using the **Colorize Neural Filter** is that you can actually go much further using all the available adjustments. After you've played with the colors, contrast, saturation and more, you can output the image.

But you're not yet, necessarily, finished. You can still work on your image using all of the other Photoshop tools.

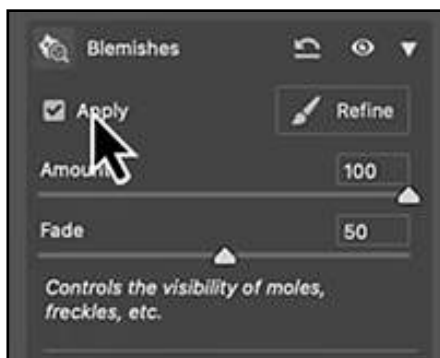


Adobe Updates

This August saw a few new features added to Adobe's image processing software programs. Here's a quick run down on a few of them...

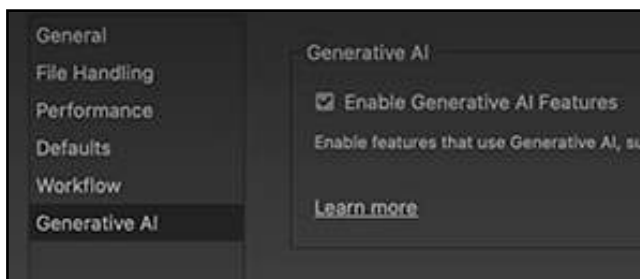


Better Mask Edges—Lightroom and Lightroom Classic have always had the ability to add masks to your RAW files so you could select and work on certain areas of the image. Recently Adobe added the ability to “feather” those selections and adjust the sharpness of the masks’ “edges.” *[This feature has been in Camera RAW for a while now.]*



Blemish Removal—Adobe just updated Camera RAW with a one-click way to remove any blemishes from someone's face. This is great if you do portrait work. This feature uses artificial intelligence to accomplish its task (it doesn't use any of your generative

credits). [This feature has not yet been added to either of the Lightroom program.]



Turn Off Generative AI—You now have the ability to turn off generative AI in Camera RAW if you want to prevent the software from creating new parts of your images and using your credits. Simply click on the gear icon (upper right of the Camera RAW window), navigate to the Generative AI section, and click the Enable... button.



SONY
make.believe



TAMRON
Focus on the Future

Sony and Tamron

The Sony Corporation is a multinational company based in Japan. It encompasses a vast array of businesses such as electronics, imaging, film and television, music, video games, and more.

Tamron is a third-party lens manufacturer meaning it makes lenses for various camera systems such as Sony, Nikon, Canon, and others. They're known for making quality lenses that are much less expensive than the OEM (original equipment manufacturers) equivalents.

Sony has recently made “a non-binding proposal” that would result in Tamron being “a wholly-owned subsidiary of Sony Group.” This would have a great impact on the lenses available to those who use other camera systems.

Neither company has commented yet on what will happen if the deal actually goes through. Stay tuned.

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.



Thu, Aug 27
Midtown West Photowalk
Speaker: Derek Fahsbender



Tue, Sep 1
Inwood Hill Park Photo Walk
Speaker: Tony Gale



Tue, Sep 1
Shooting the Winter Olympics
Speaker: Jeff Cable



Wed, Sep 2
Choose the Best Lens
Speaker: Jeff Cable



Thu, Sep 3
Journey through Georgia
Speaker: Zakaria Chelidze



Tue, Sep 8
Latest Fujifilm Gear
Speaker: Fujifilm reps



Mon, Sep 14
Unlocking the Story
Speaker: Olivia Bowdoin



Fri, Oct 16
One Light Magic
Speaker: Scott Robert Lim



Wed, Oct 26
Camera and Lens Cleaning
Presented by: Photo Tech

For more information and additional workshops go to bhphotovideo.com and click on Event Space.





10th Annual Photo Contest

The MPA 2026 Annual Photo Contest is open to everyone eager to showcase their talent. Submit your most compelling photographs. Winners will receive exclusive prizes and recognition among peers. Don't miss this opportunity to let your work shine and inspire others.

Submissions—September 1 - 30th

Contest website including rules and FAQ's...

<www.mdphotoalliance.org/2026-annual-photo-contest>



Categories

Landscape: Water—scenes that include water including streams, lakes, rivers, waterfalls, oceans

Macro: Nature—close-up visions of nature that include life such as flowers and insects

Exterior Architecture—exterior views of man-made structures.

People: Street—candid, unposed moments of everyday life in public spaces



Over the past 6 years Photoshop Virtual Summits, have helped tens of thousands of creatives level up their skills with dozens of instructors teaching 46 classes over 5 days.

This year, PVS 8 is project-based. Every class in this summit is built around a real project—because the best way to learn Photoshop is to use Photoshop.

Among the instructors this go-round are Dave Cross, Kristina Sherk, Glyn Dewis, Tim Grey, Matt Kloskowski, Khara Plincanic.

September 14 - 18, 2026

Links...

[See the Schedule](#)

[Get a Free Pass](#)

[VIP Pass Information](#)

Some of the topics...

Seamless Skies Workflow

Creating a Double Exposure Effect

The Black and White Landscape

Advanced Compositing

Advanced Blend Modes

Using AI with your Photography

Adding Realistic Highlights and Shadows

Selection and Masking Essentials

PHOTOSHOP WORLD 2026

THE ULTIMATE PHOTOGRAPHY TRAINING EVENT

SPONSORED BY **Adobe**

The event photographers and creatives wait all year for is officially here — four days with the world's best Photoshop instructors, teaching the techniques everyone will be talking about all year. The whole community shows up for this one. Don't be the one catching up later. Mark the dates. Clear the calendar. Let's go.

\$499 Sept. 14-17, 2026

<www.photoshopworld.com>

Your pass includes a full year of replay access to every session and every pre-conference class: watch at your convenience, then learn it, practice it, and master it.



NewLifePhotos

Sharing Nature's Gift

Jamie Konarski Davidson presents

2027 Workshops



BEAT THE COLD - January 15-17, 2027

One of my favorites to be indoors and not fighting the elements. Learn how to play with flowers and props in different ways out of the cold. This year will have more flower play. Go home with ideas that you can use when the weather doesn't cooperate with your plans.

Click [HERE](#) to register. The table will be set for you!



OUTER BANKS - March 17-21, 2027

Explore the Outer Banks, learn long exposures and more. If you've never been to this area, you'll discover why so many love it. From the ocean to coastal marshes and other natural treasures, the photo ops abound. Click [HERE](#) to register. We'll explore long exposures, live oak forests, lighthouses, and much, much more.



LONGWOOD IMMERSION - April 20-24, 2027

If you've never been to Longwood Gardens, you're in for an amazing experience. If you have, you know why we and others keep coming back. Tulips, trilliums, wisteria, dogwoods are just the beginning. Join us for an immersion in Longwood Gardens. Click [HERE](#) to register. Imagine diving into a pool of absolute beauty... this is the place.



GEORGIA COAST - November 3-7, 2027

Based on Jekyll Island, this area never disappoints. Filled to the brim with photogenic treasures, and a visit to Okefenokee Swamp, your cup runneth over with nature's beauty. Join us next year and learn why we love to explore the Golden Isles of Georgia. Click [HERE](#) to register. Prepare to explore the island's natural beauty, including Driftwood Beach and so much more.

Act Fast


SONY x MIDWEST PHOTO

PHOTO CONTEST

4 CATEGORIES.
1 GRAND PRIZE WINNER
 SHOOT YOUR BEST SHOT.

WIN \$2000 TOWARDS SONY

PORTRAIT WILDLIFE **LANDSCAPE STREET/TRAVEL**

DEADLINE: AUGUST 28TH

CATEGORY RUNNERS UP GET A: \$150 GIFT CARD!

[Submit Here!](#)

Photo Requirements

- Must be taken on a Sony camera with EXIF data embedded—keep EXIF intact if you resize or export
- Must be captured between June 15 - Aug 28, 2026
- JPEG or TIFF format only, **max 2MB per file**
- No AI-generated content or heavy manipulation (basic correction OK)
- No watermarks or signatures
- No corporate logos, brand names, or slogans other than Sony's
- If identifiable people appear in your photo, you must have their written consent —[download the model release form](#)
- Must be your own original work, not previously submitted or commercially used
- No pornographic, violent, defamatory, or offensive content

Adobe Firefly

Firefly is Adobe's creative AI platform. It lets you generate and edit images (as well as videos, audio, and more) using text prompts. It is available as a

standalone web app and is built directly into Creative Cloud tools like Photoshop. This walkthrough video shows you how to harness the power of Adobe's latest AI tools.



[Watch video](#)



PSA
Photographic
Society of
America

5th Photo Gathering

IT'S MORE FUN IN THE
PHILIPPINES
May 3-10, 2027



JOIN US

In the most exciting photo gathering for
photographers around the world.

This time in the Philippines!



SCAN FOR MORE INFO

[<www.philippines.psa-photogathering.com>](http://www.philippines.psa-photogathering.com)

Holiday Lights @ the Bronx Zoo

Hundreds of animal lanterns, illuminated performers, light displays, and more!



Holiday Lights takes place on select nights from November 21st through January 3rd.

[<www.bronxzoo.com>](http://www.bronxzoo.com)



STEVE SIMON
thepassionatphotographer.com

Upcoming Workshops



NEW YORK SEPTEMBER 2026
[September 12, 2026 Day & Night
Autumn In New York Photography
Intensive with Steve Simon](#)

MONTREAL SEPTEMBER 2026
[September 18-20, 2026 Montreal
Passionate Photographer Weekend
Masterclass](#)

TORONTO SEPTEMBER 2026
[September 25-27, 2027 Toronto
Passionate Photographer Weekend
Masterclass](#)

COLUMBUS PARADE NEW YORK
OCTOBER 2026
[October 12, 2026: Steve Simon:
Special One-Day New York City
Parade Edition Workshop](#)



MÉRIDA, MEXICO OCTOBER 2026
[October 27–November 2, 2026 :Día
de los Muertos \(Day of the Dead\) in
Mérida, Mexico](#)



PSA Photo Festival
September 13 – 19, 2026
at the Rio Hotel
Las Vegas, Nevada

<www.psaphotofestival.org>

Enjoy photographic opportunities, speakers, workshops, tours, and meeting members from around the world.

www.brendatharp.com/death-valley-and-alabama-hills-photography-workshop/

Death Valley and the Alabama Hills

A NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP

Come explore the magic of winter light with Brenda Tharp and Jed Manwaring

Learn advanced composition techniques, focus-stacking, seeing in black and white, and developing personal vision.

January 31-February 7, 2027 | \$2995 pp

www.brendatharp.com



Sierra Photo Meetings 2026-2027

The New York City Sierra Club Photo Committee has 10 meetings scheduled for the 2026-2027 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 21 Street, Room 418F. Tickets for all events must be purchased in advance on [Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com). Suggested donation \$8.

Tues.	9/15/25	SVA *
Tues.	10/13/25	Zoom
Tues.	11/10/25	Hybrid
Tues.	12/15/25	Zoom
Tues.	1/26/26	Hybrid
Tues.	2/16/26	Zoom
Tues.	3/23/26	Hybrid
Tues.	4/13/26	Zoom
Tues.	5/11/26	Hybrid
Tues.	6/15/26	Zoom *

SVA = in-person only

Zoom = online only

*Hybrid = in-person and
Zoom*

** members night*

Kah-Wai Lin Workshops



Photo Masters Tours

Ian Plant's Photo Masters is offering two unique photo tours (among many others) in 2027—*Wild Puna* and *Alaskan Humpback Whale Bubble-Net Feeding*.

February 22 - March 3, 2027
The Puna Wilderness of northern Argentina is a most extraordinary landscape. This remote high-desert plateau is filled with surreal rock formations, endless salt flats, colorful geothermal

pools, towering volcanoes, rainbow-colored mountains, and massive sand dunes that seem to stretch forever. We'll explore remote locations rarely visited by photographers.

March 19 - 24, 2027
Every spring, humpback whales gather in Sitka Sound to perform one of nature's most remarkable hunting behaviors: bubble-net feeding. Watching a

group of whales work together to trap schools of fish is an unforgettable experience—and Sitka Sound in March is one of the best places in the world to witness and photograph this incredible behavior.

If either of these two trips sound interesting, email [<ianplantphoto@gmail.com>](mailto:ianplantphoto@gmail.com) for registration details and availability.

NANPA Photo Tours

The North American Nature Photography Association is offering some great photo tours this fall. You can check them out at <www.nanpa.org> or click on the titles for more info. Here's a preview...



[Auroro Borealis in Canada](#)

September 7-14, 2026
with Rod Barbee and Mary Louise Ravese



[Butterflies, Birds and Blooms](#)

October 30 - November 2, 2026
with Kathy Adams Clark



[Autumn in the Adirondacks](#)

September 27-30, 2026
with Chris Murray



[Autumn in the Bayou](#)

November 1 - 5, 2026
with Jeff Vanuga and Mary Louise Ravese



Eleven classes are currently available. Additional classes will continue to be added, ensuring an ever-growing resource for photographers who want to learn, grow, and succeed.

- Nature Photography with Kurt Gardner
- The Art of Storytelling with Erica Robinson
- Portraiture with Hernan Rodriguez
- The Art of Photographing Birds with David Akoubian
- Cinematic Halloween Horror with Jonathan Thorpe
- Capturing The Night Skies with Sean Parker
- The Creative Photographer with Michael Gilbert
- Travel Photography in Mexico with Armando Flores
- Intimate Landscapes with Ian Plant
- Photographing the Wild West with Lisa Langell
- Mindful Photography with Kenna Klostermann

Swan Island Dahlia Farm ~ Photography Workshop

September 2-7, 2027

\$2299

<Info and Registration>

Join award winning photographer Donna Bourdon at the world renowned Swan Island Dahlia Farm in Canby, Oregon for a great learning and photography experience. Swan Island features more than 40 acres with over 350 varieties of dahlias in a plethora of colors, shapes and sizes.





Costa Rica Photo Workshop

Immerse yourself in all the natural beauty of Costa Rica. This small-group, all-inclusive, photography workshop takes you to the country's most iconic and visually stunning landscapes. From breathtaking jungle waterfalls and vibrant turquoise rivers to misty cloud forests, volcanic landscapes, vivid tropical sunsets, and lush rainforests thriving with 100s of species of colorful birds along with monkeys, sloths, frogs, and so much more, this journey goes far beyond the Costa Rica most photographers ever get to experience.

Dates	March 7-15, 2027
Price	\$9,875 (online) or \$9,625 (cashier's check)
Save	\$500 by registering before September 1, 2026
Single	\$1,400 (online) or \$1,375 (cashier's check)
Deposit	\$2,500.00 non-refundable deposit due with registration

This workshop includes professional photography and post processing instruction, local naturalist, location expertise, all lodging and meals, all ground transportation including to and from Santamaría International Airport (SJO), snacks and water, and all park entrance fees.



[Details & Registration](#)

Once More, With Feeling

Yancey Richardson gallery is pleased to announce *Once More, With Feeling*, a group exhibition highlighting the work of the 2026 Yale MFA graduates in photography. The exhibition will be on view through August 28th.

See what these Yalies created to culminate their 2-year Masters program.

The Yancey Richardson gallery is located at 525 West 22nd Street. To see more of the artists and their images go to...

<www.yanceyrichardson.com/exhibitions/yale-mfa-photography-2026-thesis-show>



Self Portrait 3
© Faith Couch

Congregation
© John Shen



Utah Badlands Photo Road Trip

Join Denise Ippolito to shoot southeast Utah, including Factory Butte, Bentonite Hills, and the surrounding areas. You'll experience incredible patterns, textures, unique formations, and so much more.

10 photo sessions

Dates: January 3-8, 2028

Price: \$2,200 (lodging, meals, transportation are not included; plus you'll need to rent a 4 wheel drive vehicle)



[More Info](#)

Save the Date!

NYMACC'S Field Trip to Bethlehem, PA

Saturday, October 24, 2026 9am-1pm

Rain date Saturday November 7, 2026

The New York Metro Area Camera Council's field to Bethlehem, PA will cover architecture, street photography, the Steel Stacks, historic neighborhoods, etc.

Photographers of every level, camera brand, gear, including tripods and eternal curiosity are welcome.



Registration does not include food but lunch is planned.

Reminder: Club membership in NYMACC includes all members of that club.

NYMACC Member: \$10; non-NYMACC Member: \$15

Registration is limited to 30, first come, first served.

All who pre-register will be notified about a week prior with payment information to open registration.

All paid registrants will receive the full itinerary a few days prior to the trip.

Pre Register Here

Please enter "Bethlehem Field Trip" in the subject line to hold your place.

Payment is not due until you receive the final flyer.



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).

Most Club activities will be virtual using Zoom software. Members will be emailed all the information necessary to log in and participate. Guests may request log-in details by emailing Park West Camera Club at <pwccny@gmail.com>

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

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

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



* Thursday, August 27
Expanding Visions 32
Review #4

At tonight's Zoom meeting, we will go over the images shot for *Expanding Visions 32's 4th Assignment—Full Speed Ahead*. All participants may submit up to 8 images. They may have been shot last week at the Club's Night Out in Coney Island, or anywhere else at any time—as long as they fit the assignment. The Zoom link will be sent out to all Club members. The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m.



Professional Women Photographers
EMPOWERING WOMEN IN PHOTOGRAPHY

Wednesday, September 2
Photo Event
PWP Meeting

Professional Women Photographers holds its first meeting of the new year tonight. Check their website <www.pwponline.org> for details (location, time, topic, etc.).



* Sunday, September 6
Chuck Pine
Labor Day Picnic

Save the date!!! Our annual social gathering to start off the new Club season will be held today. This yearly event brings us all together in a pleasant setting and participating in our second most cherished pastime (after photography, that is)—eating. The history of this Club activity dates back to the 1980s when Chuck invited all Club members to the presidential mansion in Far Rockaway for a BBQ every Labor Day weekend. In recent years this event has been held on the rooftop of member Gladys Hopkowitz's apartment building in the Gramercy neighborhood of Manhattan. All the details of this year's event can be found in the article on page 7 of this issue of *Photo Notes*. Hope to see you there.





Monday, September 7
Photo Ops
Parades Galore

Today is Labor Day. And that means parades. Every borough of the City, and most of the surrounding towns, have a Labor Day parade (check your local listings). But, the big event of the day is the West Indian Day Parade/Carnival in Brooklyn. Many of the City's roughly one million New York residents with Caribbean ancestry—along with 1,000s of neighbors, day-trippers, and tourists—observe this raucous celebration of over-the-top costumes, fiery food, and pulsating music. If you'd like to get in on the fun, take the #4 train to the Utica Avenue Station—the parade staging area radiates from Utica and Eastern Parkway. You should be able to shoot in the staging area for over an hour and then continue to shoot as the parade kicks off at noon and marches on Eastern Parkway over to Grand Army Plaza. Bring lots of extra media cards (or color film if you're still shooting that way), but go light on the equipment (no tripods, etc.). There are plenty of eateries on

the parade route. (All parade activities end at 6 p.m. due to City ordinance, whether or not they reach the final viewing area.) Enjoy



* Monday, September 7
No Meeting
Labor Day

Enjoy the Labor Day parades (see the above entry), go to the beach for that last dip in the ocean, have an evening picnic in one of the City's many parks, or whatever strikes your fancy.



Tuesday, September 8
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 NYMACC meeting use this [link](#).

Celebrate...



Fri. Sep. 4th
National Wildlife Day



Sun. Sep. 13th
International Chocolate Day



Tue. Sep. 22nd
National Ice Cream Cone Day



Photo Conferences Week



September 13-19

PSA Photo Festival 2026

The Photographic Society of America is holding its 2026 Photo Fest this week in Las Vegas. Enjoy photographic opportunities, speakers, workshops, trade show, tours, and meeting members from around the world. All the fun is taking place at the Brazilian carnival-inspired [Rio Hotel & Casino](https://www.riohotel.com/) located one block/mile off the Strip. The cost for the full week—not including food, lodging, and transportation—is \$250. For all the details, and to register, go to the website located at www.psaphotofestival.org

September 14-17

PhotoshopWorld 2026

Join us online for four days packed with education, techniques, new ideas, and an incredible community of photographers and digital creatives. With more than 45 sessions, there's plenty to explore, whether you spend your days in Photoshop, Lightroom, behind a camera, experimenting with AI, or all of them. The cost is \$499. Get all the details and register at www.photoshopworld.com



September 14-18

Photoshop Virtual Summit 8

The Photoshop Virtual Summit 8 - PROJECT PHOTOSHOP is five action-packed online days where you'll learn from 27 of the world's top Photoshop educators—a dream team of best-selling authors, Adobe Certified Instructors, and members of the Photoshop Hall of Fame. You can get a free pass to all 48 hours of classes OR you can buy a VIP pass (which includes lifetime access to class recordings, class notes, downloadable files, bonus videos, and more) for only \$99 (if you register before September 14th). Learn more and sign up at www.pssummit.com





* Sunday, September 13
Image Deadline
Welcome Back

The deadline for submitting images for tomorrow's Show & Tell is tonight at 11 p.m. All Club members are invited to participate. See the next entry for details. Send your images to this email address only [<pwccny@gmail.com>](mailto:pwccny@gmail.com)



* Monday, September 14
Welcome Back
Summer Photos

This is the first meeting of the new Club season. It is also your chance to show us what you did over the summer—Club activities, shots around the City, your personal vacay, etc. Competition rules are not in effect (although PDIs must be sized correctly). Please limit

your presentation to no more than ten (10) images that were shot sometime between Memorial Day (more or less) and Labor Day (give or take). Don't miss this opportunity to share and catch up with the rest of us at the Club. Send your image files to us at [<pwccny@gmail.com>](mailto:pwccny@gmail.com) no later than 11 p.m. Sunday, September 13th. This is a Zoom meeting; the link will be sent to Club members in the *PWCC Weekly Reminder*.



* Tuesday, September 15
Print Salon

The Club's Print Salon will be holding its meeting today to start off the new year and its discussion of all things print-making. See the article on page 9 in this issue of *Photo Notes* for detailed info on the group and how to contact Larry Rubin if you'd like to participate.



* Wednesday, September 16
YEP Meeting

After last year's success, the Year End Project will meet tonight on Zoom. You will be sent the sign-on link at 6:15 p.m. this evening and the meeting will begin promptly at 6:30. See the article on page 10 in this issue of *Photo Notes* for detailed info on the group and how to get in touch with the YEP troika (Ann, Christine, and Marlene) if you would like to participate.



Thur - Sun, September 17 - 27
Photo Op
Feast of San Gennaro

The 100th "feast of all feasts" is New York City's longest-running, most revered, and biggest religious outdoor party.

It's held for 11 days and evenings on the streets of historic Little Italy. Although this is a yearly celebration of faith, the Feast of San Gennaro is known the world over for its party-like atmosphere with colorful parades, a variety of ethnic foods, entertainment,, and the world-famous cannoli-eating contest. Since this event is always crowded, don't bring a tripod, but do bring plenty of media cards (or film) and a spare battery; and if you're planning on being there after dark, a flash would be helpful, as well. For more information

<www.sangennaronyc.org>



Tuesday, September 15
Photo Event
Sierra Photo

Sierra Club Photo NYC will be getting its 51st year underway with a members night. This meeting will be in-person only at the School of Visual Arts, 132 West 21st Street, 4th Floor, Room 418F. All members can submit up to eight nature-based images (landscape, wildlife, etc.). This will also be a great opportunity for new members to get to

know the group, and learn about what they do. All are welcome. The best way to get there is by subway—the F, N, R and the #1 trains all have stops on 23rd Street, which are a short walk from the meeting. Additionally, the A and C trains are an option with a slightly longer walk. You must purchase your ticket through <eventbrite.com> An donation of \$8 is suggested. Tickets are not sold at the door.

*



Monday, September 21
No Meeting
Yom Kippur

There will be no Park West Camera Club meeting tonight—the first evening of the Yom Kippur, Jewish high holy day celebration. For those of you observing, לַשָּׁנָה טוֹבָה (L'shanah tovah—Happy New Year).*

DON'T MISS
THE DEADLINE!

Wednesday, September 23
PDI Workshop Deadline

The deadline for submitting images for this Thursday's PDI workshop is tonight at 11:59 p.m. Members may submit one or two images for a critique

and suggestions for improving them. Some images will be worked on with a variety of photo-editing software. Only images from the first 10 Club members to send them in will be reviewed at this workshop. Other Club members may join in to view and comment on the images and demonstrations. Your images must be sent to <pwccny@gmail.com>



* Thursday, September 24
PDI Workshop

See the previous entry for all the details. This Zoom meeting will begin at 7 p.m.. The link to this workshop will be sent to the membership in the Club's weekly reminder.



* Monday, September 28
Business Meeting #1

Tonight is the first business meeting of the new Club year. There's always plenty of excitement in the air. The Ex-Com (Executive Committee) members and all committee chairs will be introduced. On the agenda is a proposed amendment to the *PWCC By-Laws* which will codify the use of artificial intelligence in our competitions. See the article

on page 13 of this issue of *Photo Notes*. We will also discuss what lies ahead for the Club.



* Monday,
September
28
Image
Deadline

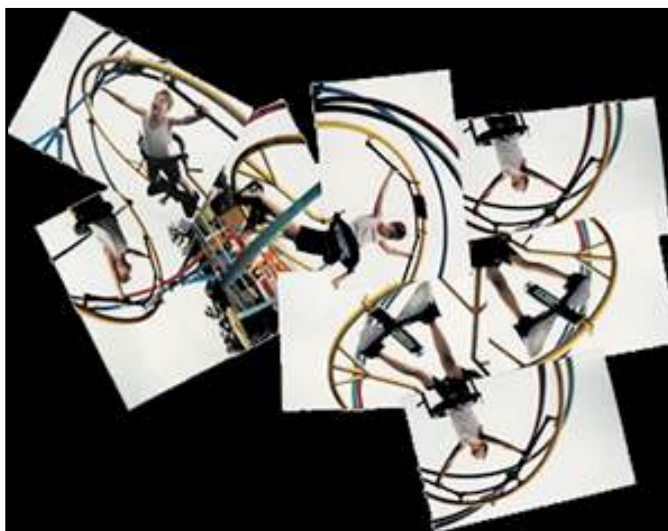
October Competition

Please note that PDI entries are due by 11:59 p.m. tonight for next week's initial monthly competition of the 206-2027 Club year. See page 5 of this issue of *Photo Notes* on how to prepare your images. More information is available in the *PWCC Competition Manual*.

Send your two entries to [<pwcccompetition@yahoo.com>](mailto:pwcccompetition@yahoo.com)

If you want confirmation that your image(s) were received, add the following address [<hfklein@mindspring.com>](mailto:hfklein@mindspring.com) to your email with the images.

You must pay your Club dues prior to next week's competition in order to participate.



© Marilyn Stern

* Monday, October 5 Monthly Competition

Tonight is the first competition of the new year. Who will win the top honors? What will the judge say about your images? Will you agree? The only way to find out the answers to these probing questions is to enter and join the Zoom meeting. Full rules are available from the Competition and the Membership Committees and on the PWCC website. PDI entries must be submitted by midnight one week prior to today: September 28th. Just a reminder, you may enter up to two PDIs. Tonight's judge is Marilyn Stern. *She* is a New York City-based photographer working in the fine art and editorial genres. Her work has been widely exhibited and published in the U.S. and in Europe. Marilyn has published two books: *Kval! Die Walfänger der Lofoten / The Whale Hunters of Lofoten* (photographer and writer) and *Masked Culture: The*

Greenwich Village Halloween Parade, a long-term group project which she left. Marilyn is known for her photo-assemblages and digital montages.

She has taught the class *Beyond the Single Image* at ICP and *Combining Images* at NYU. Find out more about Marilyn at [<www.sternphoto.com>](http://www.sternphoto.com)



Professional Women Photographers
EMPOWERING WOMEN IN PHOTOGRAPHY

Wednesday, October 7 Photo Event—PWP Meeting

PWP (Professional Women Photographers) holds its monthly meeting tonight. Go to their website for details [<www.pwponline.org>](http://www.pwponline.org)

* Monday, October 12 Model Shoot

Tonight's meeting will be held live-and-in-person at an indoor photo studio with a live model. This model shoot will be led by former PWCC president (and professional photographer) Ed Lee. The model we're hiring is none other than Pearls Daily—the model we shot in Carl Schurz Park last summer. We're considering shooting



Pearls Daily
© Chuck Pine



© Tim Cooper

both fashion and figure study. We will have two sessions so it won't get too crowded—6 p.m. and 7:45 p.m.—both will be one-and-a-half hours in length. All this will take place at the equipped Fairway Studios, located at 115 West 30th Street, just west of Avenue of the Americas/6th Avenue. They are on the 3rd floor in suite #306. To help defray the cost of the model fees and studio rental, we're asking all of the participants to contribute \$5.

Tuesday, October 13
Photo Event
Sierra Photo

Sierra Club Photo NYC will be meeting tonight via Zoom. The guest photographer for the evening is Tim Cooper. He is an accomplished commercial photographer, conservationist, and educator with decades of experience. Tim is widely known for his landscape and nature imagery, instructional workshops, and expertise in

digital workflow, HDR (high dynamic range) photography, and night imaging. You must purchase your ticket through [eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com) in advance. An \$8 donation is suggested. To see more of Tim's photos, go to www.instagram.com/timcooperphotography

* Monday, October 19
Guest Speaker
Lee Hoy

Tonight's guest photographer is Lee Hoy. He is a seasoned wildlife and nature shooter based in the Davis Mountains of West Texas. Lee began his photographic journey as a child when his parents bought him a Ranger Ready camera and they visited the Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge in Southwestern Oklahoma. Today he leads immersive workshops worldwide—from the Galápagos to Big Bend National Park. His passion lies in teaching others

Celebrate...



Thu. Oct. 8th
World Octopus Day



Sun. Oct. 17th
National Pasta Day



Wed. Oct. 21st
National Apple Day





© Lee Hoy

to capture compelling images while fostering a connection with the natural world. Lee is an OM System (formerly Olympus) ambassador and spokesperson. You can check him out at his website...

<www.leeheyphotography.com>



* Saturday, October 24
Entry Deadline
Halloween Scavenger Hunt

Tonight's *Halloween Scavenger Hunt* will be a little different than in past years. In lieu of submitting random seasonal pictures, we're going to be spelling the word H-A-L-L-O-W-E-E-N in images. See page 9 in this issue of *Photo Notes* for the details. See page 8 of this

issue of *Photo Notes* for the sizing and labeling details. We'll share all of the images at the meeting on Monday, October 27th. Send your images by 11:59 p.m. tonight to this address only <pwccny@gmail.com>



* Monday, October 26
Halloween Scavenger Hunt
Tonight we'll share the images members have submitted for the Halloween Scavenger Hunt. See the above entry and the article on page 9 in this issue of *Photo Notes* for more info. This will be another great evening of our Club members sharing images!



* Monday, October 26
Image Deadline
October Competition

Please note that PDI entries are due by midnight tonight for next week's monthly/October competition. See page 8 of this issue of *Photo Notes* on how to

prepare your images. More information is available in the *PWCC Competition Manual*. Send your two entries only to <pwcccompetition@yahoo.com> Want confirmation that your images were received? Add this address to your email <hfklein@mindspring.com>



Saturday, October 31
Photo Op
Halloween Parade

The 52nd annual NYC Village Halloween Parade takes place tonight. Your best bet for photography is to get to the staging area between Spring and Canal Streets on Avenue of the Americas/6th Avenue at 5 p.m. The C and E trains stop right there (Spring Street); many other trains and buses will also get you there as the participants don their outfits and are willing to pose and chat. A high ISO and/or flash will be helpful; tripods would not be convenient with all the crowds. For more info on the parade activities you can go to <www.halloween-nyc.com> At 7 p.m. the parade kicks off and heads up to 27th Street.

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