Chester County Camera Club

a community of photographers

June 2026 Newsletter

Election Results are In!

We're happy to announce our newly elected officers for the next club year - and also happy to say they all won by a landslide! Voting took place at the May meeting by the very scientific method of raising your hand!

The top row features President Jennifer Powell, who will return for another 2-year term; Atala Toy, our newly elected VP; and Peggy Kane, serving another term as Secretary. The three officers on the bottom row, Helen Wagner, Treasurer, Carol DeGuiseppi, Member-at-Large, and Sheila Fredericks, Member-at-Large, have all been re-elected for another term.

These folks volunteer their time and expertise to CCCC and do their best to ensure we remain the premier camera club in the area. If you have any questions, concerns, or recommendations feel free to reach out to any of them. If you'd like to get more involved or are interested in a specific volunteer role, they will be happy to help or point you in the right direction.

Thank you officers, for all you do!

May Happenings:

Members Forum: Ralph Nigro "Preserving Your Analog Legacy"

We all have piles of photos from before digital cameras and the ability to store photos on our computers. Ralph discussed ways to organize, digitize, and preserve negatives, slides, and prints from our pre-computerized era. If you missed it, you can click here to watch the zoom recording.

Monthly Meeting: John Barclay "Through the Lens of Love"

John talked about his photographic journey, and realizing that photography is a creative art form, he is constantly exploring new ways to connect with his subject. He is passionate about learning to fall in love with, rather than just photograph, what he is drawn to. How does the love of his subjects influence his photography? It boils down to this — photograph what makes your heart sing! Click here for the zoom video.

Night Sky Instructional Meeting

In preparation for the night sky shoot (which was postponed due to clouds), Svenne Juul and Art Glenn discussed the importance of knowing how to operate the camera in the dark, recommended camera settings, how to focus the camera in the dark, post processing, and what to expect for the outing. Click here to download their comprehensive presentation that includes lots of great info. This is a ***members only*** benefit- you must be logged in to download the pdf. The night sky outing has been tentatively rescheduled to July 11, 12, or 13.

Post-Processing Zoom Group

In the last zoom meetup of the year, Buzz Mossholder again reviewed techniques to improve your images in photoshop and Lightroom, and answered a lot of questions. Always educational and interactive!

Buzz will be stepping down from his role leading this group after three years of preparing lessons - all of which have been recorded and are available for review here, and more on the CCCC website under Club Information / Resource Links / Education and Training. Buzz asked the group what educational opportunities they would like to see in the future, and Denise Molzahn shared some of the ideas regarding ongoing education at the Steering Committee meeting. This final zoom video is available here.

The group shared heartfelt gratitude to Buzz for his years of sharing his expertise with the group

> *"You contributed so much to the improvement of all of us. My work is much better now than at the start" - Atala Toy*
>
> *"It's been enormously helpful Buzz - thank you!" - Carolyn Mead*
>
> *"I'm no longer so intimidated by photoshop" - Denise*
>
> *"I sometimes wake up at 5:30 in the morning and watch new releases of YouTube photoshop tutorials. During the three years I have been doing this I have learned more than you - I have no regrets!" - Buzz Mossholder*

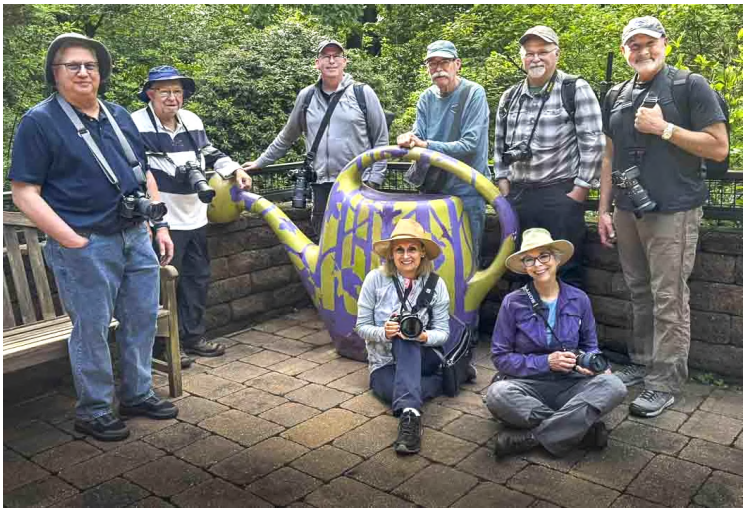
Thank you Buzz!

Technical and Creative Exchange: Composition and Panoramas

This was Part 2 of a lively discussion on composition. After some image reviews, session leader Ralph Nigro moved onto the topic of panoramas that give the viewer a sweeping view that wouldn't be possible in one shot. He shared tips on how to compose and then stitch multiple images to create compelling panoramic images. Watch the video here.

Club Outing - Jenkins Arboretum

Another opportunity to enjoy the wonder of nature, this time at beautiful Jenkins Arboretum and Gardens. Photographers meandered through woodland settings and wound their way downhill to the pond which included lots of turtles and birds. See more pictures in the CCCC gallery.



Up close springtime beauty captured by (L to R) Doug Cinoman, Ralph Nigro,and Francis Galvin.

Club Workshop - Natural Light Portrait Photography

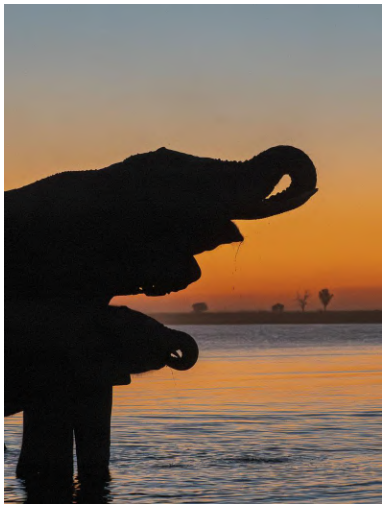
CCCC members gathered at the beautiful Powell Estate for a hands-on portrait photography experience. After a brief introduction by Wayne Dixon and Jennifer Powell, four groups of photographers headed outdoors to practice, using one another as models. Chris Shigley took this image of Ralph, Joanne and Pat posing with the canon. A beautiful stone wall provided the perfect backdrop for the workshop volunteers; Wayne Dixon, Jennifer Powell, Peter Guman, Jim Samanen, and Jim Wilson. Be sure to check the gallery in a week or so after more images are uploaded.

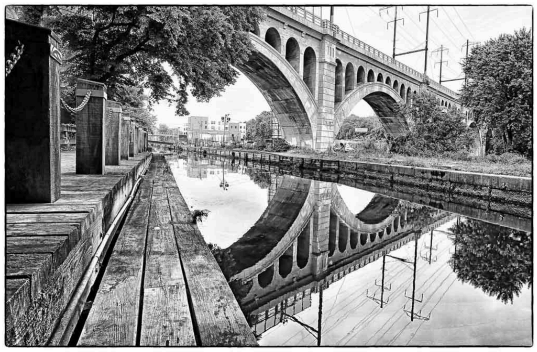
May Competition - "Environmental Portraits"

The challenge was to tell a story through environmental portraits. Use portrait photography techniques to capture individuals in their natural surroundings, providing insight into their personality, lifestyle, and culture. Guest judge Mark Bergkvist of the Photography Workshop shared observations that provided a learning experience.

First Place ribbons in the assigned category prints were: Jennifer Hahn for monochrome for "My Dog Mozert c. 1997", and to Joe Hare in color for "Ft. Delaware Blacksmith Shop". In the digital category, blue ribbons went to Ralph Nigro in monochrome for "The Pilot". And to Betsy Wilson for "Death Valley Devotion"

In open digital categories, first place was awarded to Eric Loken in color for "Chobe Silhouette", monochrome to Jack Paolini for "Manayunk Bridge". In open print categories, David Ward took two firsts; for "Encyclia Savannah Pixie 1" in color, and in monochrome for "Nelumbo alba grandiflora."





Congratulations to all!

To see all images in the competition, go to Competitions / Competitions Results, then choose the competition (eight categories), and check the box "Display all images".

Important Announcements

Coney Island Bus Trip has a few spots left!

There are still a few spots left - act now so you don't miss all the fun - and feel free to invite your friends and family! Our trip is the day of the annual Mermaid Parade, so there will be a wide range of subjects for you to photograph! Check out these images from our 2018 trip. (l to r: H. Sundwall, T. Goldman, B. Wilson, D. Grantham) Click here for all details and to register.

End of the Year Party - Wednesday, June 10

It's time to get together and celebrate another successful year at CCCC. This is the social event of the season, where we share the club's successes over the past year and announce the coveted Photographer of the Year Awards. You should have received an evite with detailed information and a link to sign up to bring something for the covered dish. Be sure to respond, as you won't want to miss it! It's always a great time with delicious food, friendship, and fun! **Several members found their evite in their spam folder, so if you haven't received yours, check your spam and if it's not there, contact Jennifer Powell.**

Summer Challenge Starts in June!

Don't let that camera collect dust over the summer! Participate in The Summer Challenge! It's a great way to stay connected over the summer, improve your photography, and meet new people. There are two outings that involve dinner and a final "Preview Party" that also involves dinner! You know how we love parties! The theme and categories will be announced at the End of the Year Party on June 10, so be there or be square!!

Upcoming Events:

Monthly Critique Groups - June 7 and June 28

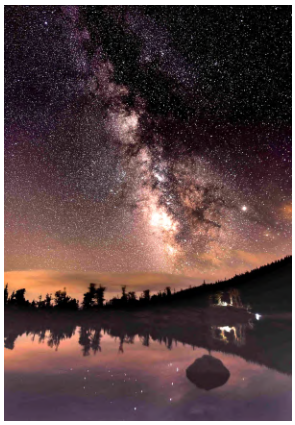
While we take a break from regular meetings over the summer, our Critique Groups carry on! If you're new and not familiar with these groups, it's a great way to share your images and get inspiration from other club members on a Sunday afternoon. These groups meet both in-person and via zoom, typically the first Sunday of the month. Contact Jim Samanen and he'll get you all set up.

Upcoming Outings:

WWII Reenactment - Reading Fairgrounds - Sat, June 6

The WWII Weekend in Reading offers **incredible photographic opportunities**—from vintage warbirds in flight and on the ground, to authentic reenactors in period uniforms, military vehicles, and immersive 1940s-era scenes. The combination of action, portrait, and storytelling images makes this one of the most dynamic events of the year.

Night Sky Photography - Rescheduled from May



Tentative Date: July 11, 12,or 13?

Let's try this again and hope Mother Nature cooperates this time! To maximize our chances of a clear night sky, Svenne is trying to line up a few dates so he can choose the best one as we get closer to the event. If capturing an amazing shot of The Milky Way or some Star Trails are on your bucket list, this outing is for you! If you were registered for the May night shoot, be on the lookout for an email with updated information. If you didn't register for the May outing you may be able to attend this time, so reach out to Svenne and let him know you're interested.

Dates to Remember - Mark your Calendar!

Sat, Jun 6	Club Outing - WWII Reenactment
Sun, Jun 7	Critique Groups
Wed, Jun 10	End of the Year Party!
Sat, Jun 20	Bus Trip - Coney Island - Register Now!
Wed, Jun 24	First Summer Challenge Outing
Sun, Jun 28	Critique Groups
Sat, Jul 12?	Outing - Night Sky Photography - reschedule from May -***Tentative Date***
Wed, Jul 15	Second Summer Challenge Outing
Sun, Aug 2	Critique Groups
Wed, Aug 12	Summer Challenge Pot Luck Dinner

The Spotlight is shining on Jerry Snyder this month!

Jerry joined CCCC in September 2024. While he's new to our club, he sure isn't new to photography! He received his first camera, a Canon AE-1, way back in 1961. His first creative activity was to climb the highest tree in his back yard and photograph the rooftops of the houses in his neighborhood. As a loyal Canon user, he currently shoots with a Canon R6ii.

He enjoys getting outside with his camera to capture grand- and small-scene landscapes,nature, and wildlife. He relates to the graphical elements in scenes and subjects, primarily shapes, textures, patterns, and colors, and also enjoys night sky photography, especially the moon and planets. Judging by this image, it looks like he's a natural with the local wildlife.

Jerry is not a competition photographer and rarely enters photos in competitions. In his own words, "*You will never hear me ask 'what do you think of my photograph?' I enjoy the outings, having informal discussions with other photographers. So, getting to know other photographers is what I enjoy. If you see me on an outing, come and say hello.*"

Jerry's career as a Civil Engineer (now retired) focused on water in all its forms and states, which included mathematical simulations of hydrology, hydraulics, water quality, and water treatment. His assignments required documenting his findings into a report in which he included photographs of the effects of flooding. This rekindled his interest in photography, and a passion was born!

Jerry certainly keeps busy in his retirement. He volunteers once a week at a local SPCA, taking photographs of adoptable dogs, which he finds fun and challenging to capture expressions and gestures in the dogs; he is the de facto event photographer for his and his wife's Synagogue; and additionally he participates with the Art in the Park group when his schedule permits. This is a group of photographers and plein air painters in Valley Forge National Historic Park that meet once a month and are organized by two dedicated Park Rangers. It is free and open to the public.

To say Jerry is passionate about his photography hobby is an understatement, and has traveled far and wide to hone his craft, including trips to Antarctica, Southern Africa, and the Arctic. He has been a member of PSA Digital Dialogue Monochrome Study Group64 since 2017; they post and discuss monochrome images on a monthly basis. He subscribes to several photography publications and has numerous coffee table books, the first photo book he created was titled "Changing Lenses."

"*My decade-long photographic pursuit is in developing my "ability to see" as an artist. To this end I have enrolled in pencil drawing, pastel, and watercolor and oil painting classes. I have an interest in mindfulness and have taken training in Miksang (Tibetan for Good Eye), a form of contemplative photography. I consider myself to be an advanced amateur photographer with much to learn.*"

New Member

A warm welcome goes out to our newest member **John "Fred Fredricks,"** who is Sheila's husband. We're happy to have another family member join us, and hope you enjoy all the club has to offer. We look forward to getting to know you over the coming months.

Instructional Opportunities

Show support for club member **Betsy Wilson**, and enjoy a weekend full of learning at the same time! Betsy will join several well-known instructors, including John Barclay who was our guest speaker in May, for the 12th Virtual Creative Photography Conference hosted by Hazel Meredith on June 27 and 28. Click here for more information - And if you register through the link on Betsy' bio page, she gets some extra credit!

Opportunities to Share Your Work

The Photography Classes for The Philadelphia Flower Show 2027 have been announced! Here's a chance to share your skill and creativity as a photographer and show the rest of the country the amazing talent we have in CCCC. Club member, Helen Wagner, has been involved with the flower show for several years and is currently serving as the Chair of the Photography Division; we'd love to show her our support. Registration begins in September, but start thinking about it and shooting now! Find all the details here.

Competition Tips:

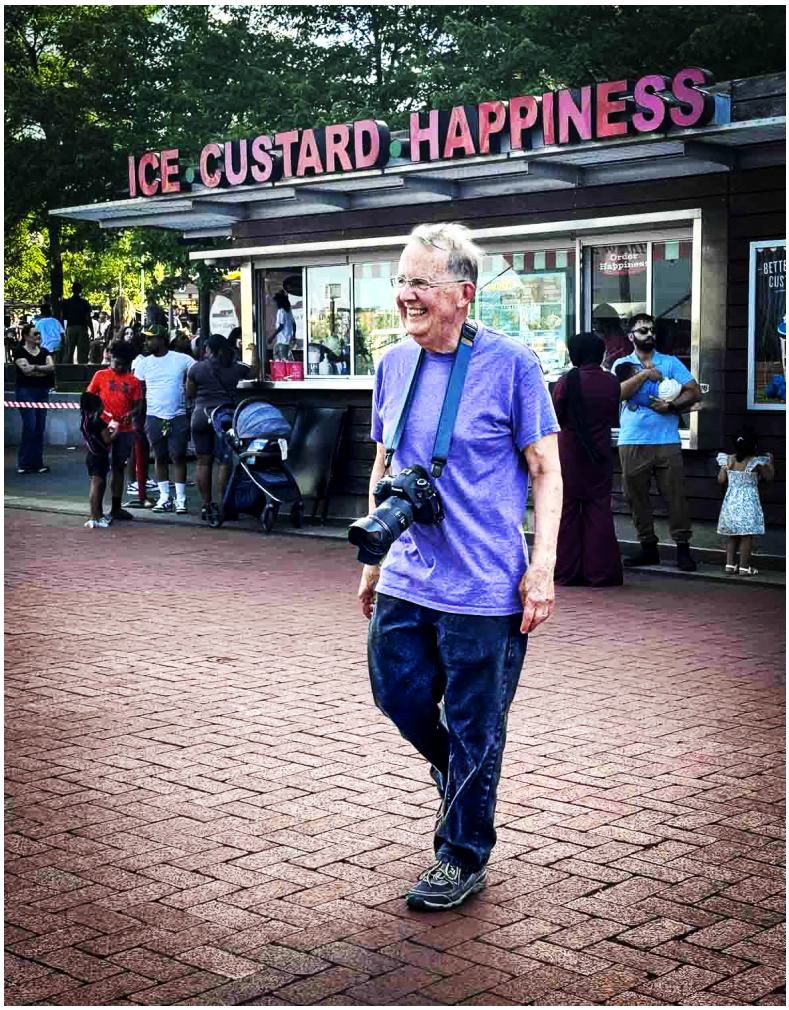
While there are no formal competitions during the summer months, the assigned themes for the next club year will be announced at the Year End Party on June 10. Another great reason not to miss it!

Be sure to regularly check the CCCC Homepage for news and updates, and links to galleries from recent outings.

If you have any information you would like considered in an upcoming monthly newsletter, please contact newsletter editors Carol DeGuiseppi or Betsy Wilson.

One Last Thought

Have a Fun-filled, Sun-filled Summer!



This photo of Jerry Snyder on last year's bus trip to Annapolis and Baltimore has all the elements of a fun-filled, sun-filled, summer! We can imagine Jerry just finishing off a refreshing, cool custard and is brimming with happiness! This year our bus trip takes us to Coney Island with more ice cream, world-famous Nathan's Hot Dogs, and the annual Mermaid Parade!