



Chester County Camera Club

a community of photographers

July-August 2021 Newsletter

End of Year Recognition and Awards Event



Our second (and hopefully last) virtual year end event was held via Zoom on Wednesday, June 9. Club President, Ginia Apostolacus, and the party-planning committee of Carolyn Mead, Pat Rhubottom, and Connie Snyder once again drew on their collective creativity to keep us engaged and entertained throughout the event. Ginia got the evening started with a fun multiple choice survey with questions like, "Who would you like to go on a photo-shoot with," where there were no right or wrong answers, just a lot of fun and laughter!

Our next activity was to "Guess the Committee Person" from their childhood photo and a well-crafted hint, such as the one shown here. If you missed the activity, look closely at that smile and you'll see that it's Svenne Juul!

Ginia then recognized the officers and committee chairs for their hard work and dedication in keeping the club moving forward throughout a challenging year and announced the competition topics for next season. The suspense was building, and it was with much anticipation that we finally moved on to the "Big Three" awards for the year: People's Choice, Megapixel, and Photographer of the Year, which are all shown below.

It was a great event and a fun time was had by all the Zoomers who attended. If you missed it, you can find slides of the [presentation on our website](#). Thanks again to the Party Planning Committee for their creativity - we look forward to what they have planned for next year - in person!!

8

This toddler was always on the go and he continues to make adventures for everyone around.

What's your guess?

- a. Svenne Juul
- b. Howard Sundwall
- c. Steve Whitney
- d. Dean Grantham

Kodachrome
TRANSPARENCY

PROCESSED BY KODAK



The People's Choice Awards:

Club members vote on their top three favorite images each year from among the first place ribbon winners in our monthly competitions. It's great to be awarded a ribbon in a competition, but it's truly an honor to be recognized by your peers.

Third Place

"The Warbler and the Cherry Blossoms"
by Eric Loken

Second Place

"Lonely Wolf"
by Navjot
Hanspal



First Place

"Preening Egrets"
by Nima Marsh

Congratulations to all!

MegaPixel Award:

The MegaPixel Award, as its name might suggest goes to the member who “does the most for the most” and is always ready to help out in every area and is a natural leader, even without an official title. While there are many club members worthy of this award, we can all appreciate the special recognition going to our outstanding outing coordinator, Svenne Juul, who went above and beyond in his role this year.



Top Award - Photographer of the Year:



The prestigious Photographer of the Year Award goes to the member with the greatest number of points accumulated from winning images in our monthly competitions. To achieve a high number of points, the photographer has to have consistently submitted images of the highest quality. This year's award goes to Sue Hare who has certainly done just that. Congratulations, Sue on your well-deserved recognition. Sue continues to inspire us all

with her passionate quest to experiment with new concepts and learn new techniques. And her efforts certainly paid off! In addition to the top honor, Sue collected some really nice prizes!

June Highlights:



Members' Forum - "Art in Photography - In Search of Impact" - by Jim Samanen

In a previous Members Forum, Jim Samanen distinguished Impact from Technique in Photography as a useful way to understand what differentiates a snapshot from a good photo from an impactful photograph. Along with his colleagues Ted Goldman and Navjot Hanspal, Jim has expanded that

discussion to take a close look at Impact which brings us to consider the Art in Photography. Many wonderful images were shared to demonstrate the importance of impact, such as this image by Jim Samanen "Goat Doin' Jagger" which has proven to be very successful in art shows and exhibitions.

To experience the Subjective Nature of Impact, the presentation included an audience participation event that proved to be a lot of fun! If you missed it, or want to rewatch this thought-provoking experience, [click here](#) for links to both the video and a pdf of the presentation. This is for members only- so be sure you are logged in to the website to gain access.



Monthly Presentation -Nick Hanson: Making the Most of Focal Lengths and Ratios - Crop in Camera, Not in the Computer

Coming to us all the way from Scotland, award winning professional photographer Nick Hanson used his portfolio of stunning photos to explain how to make the best use of a wide range of focal lengths. He also demonstrated how the right choice of crop ratio can have a major impact on the success of an image. To watch the video or to get links to Nick's website, [click here](#).



Summer Challenge Meetup in Downingtown

Stephanie Vacek and Anita Bower chose the perfect summer day for photographers to gather and shoot the sights in Downingtown. After gathering at the historic log cabin for a group shot (thank you David Balick!), everyone wandered on their own to look for images that might fit some of the summer challenge assignments.



Then we took a short drive to Pomod'oro Italian Restaurant for a wonderful outdoor dinner. It was so nice to again gather together to photograph and enjoy conversation with friends.





Club Outing: Valley Preferred Cycling Center

Velodrome bike-racing presents about as much fun as sports photographers can ask for with lots of competitive action. The outdoor velodrome at Valley Preferred Cycling Center is a high quality venue with the benefit of relatively low commercial and spectator pressure. Visibility of the action

from the spectator stands is good, but smooth-talking Svenne Juul managed to get CCCC photographers into the center of the velodrome for some super shots! Check out the [gallery](#) to see the images taken there.

Upcoming Events:

[Monthly Critique Group](#) - August 8

Some things slow down over the summer, but the Monthly Critique Group goes on! Share your photographs and receive constructive feedback in a small group setting. This friendly and fun atmosphere exclusively for members, promotes camaraderie and learning. Registration is easy - simply let [Jim Samanan](#) know if you are interested in participating.

Monthly Meeting - September 8

Coming to you live and in-person from the Westminster Presbyterian Church!!

Our guest speaker this month is Laurie Beck Peterson who will speak about Nineteenth Century Processing. More information is coming soon.

Members' Forum - September 8

Members' Forums are held immediately prior to and at the same location of our monthly meetings at 6:30 pm on the 2nd Wednesday of each month. Our first members' forum of the new club year will feature Navjot Hanspal presenting on "Physics, Photons, and Phun," in which he'll share some "basement" experiments and some resulting images.

Upcoming Outings:

Here's a sneak-peek at some of the outings for the early fall months. Keep an eye out for more information in emails and on the schedule page as it becomes available.

- [Chester County Balloon Festival](#) (September 11)
- [Sleepy Hollow MX Motocross](#) (September 19)
- [The Race of Gentlemen](#) in Wildwood, NJ (October 2)
- [Hawk Mountain](#) (October 17)
- [Sultana Downrigging](#) (October 30)

To receive regular updates of new outings in your email, sign up for the CCCC Meetup page! Signing up is easy and free at www.meetup.com

Dates to Remember

We're back to in-person meetings! New year, same schedule, and same location! If you're a new member and haven't been to Westminster Presbyterian Church yet, here is a [google map link](#) so you can get directions from your location. Be sure to check the [Schedule page](#) regularly for updates.

- Sun, Jul 11 [Monthly Critique Group](#)
- Sun, Aug 8 [Monthly Critique Group](#)
- Wed, Sept 8 Member's Forum and Monthly Meeting
- Sat, Sept 11 Club Outing - [Chester County Balloon Festival](#)
- Sun, Sept 12 [Monthly Critique Group](#)
- Sun, Sept 19 Club Outing - [Sleepy Hollow MX Motocross](#)

Mentor Group

Mentor/Mentee Coordinators Buzz Mossholder and Mike Kiba shared a poll with mentees to better understand their needs and create a meaningful program to promote learning for less-experienced members. All the mentees are very interested in shooting together, having their images critiqued, and getting their questions answered. Based on feedback, a few small groups have been assigned by camera brands (Sony, Canon, Fuji and Nikon), and one or more mentors have been assigned to each. Plans are underway to have these groups shoot together, then gather to talk about the experience and ask questions. There will also be monthly meetings of the entire group, probably via Zoom (so that we can record the sessions), where we would focus on post processing (another topic that was mentioned in the survey by several mentees), and answering mentee questions.

If interested in participating, mentees (those who want to learn) should email Mike Keba at m.keba32@gmail.com. Mentors (those interested in teaching) should email Buzz Mossholder at buzzmossholder@gmail.com

**This month our spotlight is shining on
always smiling and willing
to help, Stephanie Vacek!**



Stephanie has been a member of our club for about nine years; she has Summer Challenge images in her files from the summer of 2013.

She began her volunteer service to the club shortly thereafter in 2014 as the club secretary, taking copious notes of all our meetings, and continued in that role for six years. In 2017, she began co-chairing the Summer Challenge with Anita Bower and is currently very actively involved in that role ~~~ and they're doing an

amazing job!!!

Stephanie began her love affair with photography when she received her first Brownie camera in elementary school. She pursued her passion and got her first SLR, a Canon AE-1. In the early 1980s she got her first DSLR, a Canon 40D, and she currently shoots with a Canon 7D! She's a Canon gal through and through!

She enjoys a wide range of photographic subjects, but lately has been focusing on birds and animals, especially what she calls her Zoo Crew, which consists of Sophie, a Cockatiel, and Charlotte and Button, two adorable bunnies. She is looking forward to being able to get back to international travel photography one of these days - hopefully soon!

Steph admits to being "wowed" by the amazing images of several club members throughout the years and often wonders how they did that! She's attended various club workshops and other instructional classes to help her grow and learn some of the special tricks and techniques.



In her "real" job, Stephanie worked as a Registered Dietitian for several years at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania (HUP) and the Medical College of Pennsylvania (MCP) in Philadelphia. She eventually left the hospital setting and transitioned to the pharmaceutical industry, where she sold adult nutritionals and infant formula for Mead Johnson/BMS.

In her spare time, Stephanie keeps busy by volunteering at the Ronald McDonald House in Wilmington, which she's been doing since 2004. She also loves to travel with her husband Dan, also a CCCC member, and enjoys all the pre-planning that goes into their many international trips.

Stephanie enjoys the friendship and camaraderie of the club and is looking forward to returning to in-person meetings in the fall!



Opportunities to Show Your Work

VisitWilm 2021 Summer Photo Contest

Send in your best photos of Delaware and the Brandywine Valley for a chance to win some great prizes and be featured on their social media sites and 2021-2022 Visitors Guide. Get all the details [here](#).

Members in the News

This is the first year the **Philadelphia Flower Show** was held outside and also the first time we've had *three* members receive ribbons for their entries! Congratulations to Ribbon winners **Ginia Apostolacus**, **Nima Marsh**, and **Betsy Wilson** . If you missed the Flower Show exhibit, here is [a link](#) to all the accepted photographs.



Ginia Apostolacus
2nd Place
Waterworld Class



Nima Marsh
First Place
Nectar of the Gods Class



Nima Marsh
Honorable Mention
Some Like it Hot Class



Betsy Wilson
Honorable Mention
Concrete Jungle Class



Anita Bower is one of two featured artists in the Art Gallery at North Star Orchard in Cochranville, PA. The show will feature 30 to 40 framed photographs, including the one shown on the left, "Tickets for Two," and will be on display from July 15 through August 1. You can read Anita's artist statement and find out more about North Star Orchard, including their exact location and hours at <https://northstarorchard.com/art-gallery>

The **FOCUS Annual Exhibition of Photography** at the Allentown Art Museum will feature images by members **Ayyappan Nair**, **Robert Becker** and **Betsy Wilson**. Lehigh Valley Photography Club proudly hosts the 4th annual juried exhibition of members' photography in the Community Gallery at the Allentown Art Museum, July 11 to August 8.

Learning Opportunities

We have quite a few right on our own website! Go to the [News and Presentation Videos](#) tab, then click on Club Presentations and Events, then on 2020-2021 Club Year for links to videos and pdf downloads of most of the presentations, members forums and workshops presented this past year.

B&H has many free tutorial videos on their [YouTube Channel](#). Check them out!

Website Wisdom

Need a refresher on who in CCCC is in charge of what? Go to [Club Information / Club Officers and Committees](#) and you'll get all the names. Then if you want to email someone (perhaps you want to volunteer to join a committee!) you can send them an email by going to [Club Information / Send email to members](#). Remember to login, as this option is only visible to active CCCC members.

If you have any information you would like considered for an upcoming monthly newsletter, please contact newsletter editors [Carol DeGuisseppi](#) or [Betsy Wilson](#).

And the last laugh goes to...



Jim Wilson captured this silly group of club members at an outing mimicking the face on the wall.

Didn't their moms ever tell them their faces would freeze like that!!

Some folks will do anything for a laugh!

Left to Right: Arvid Bloom, Stephanie Vacek, Betsy Wilson, Howard Sundwall