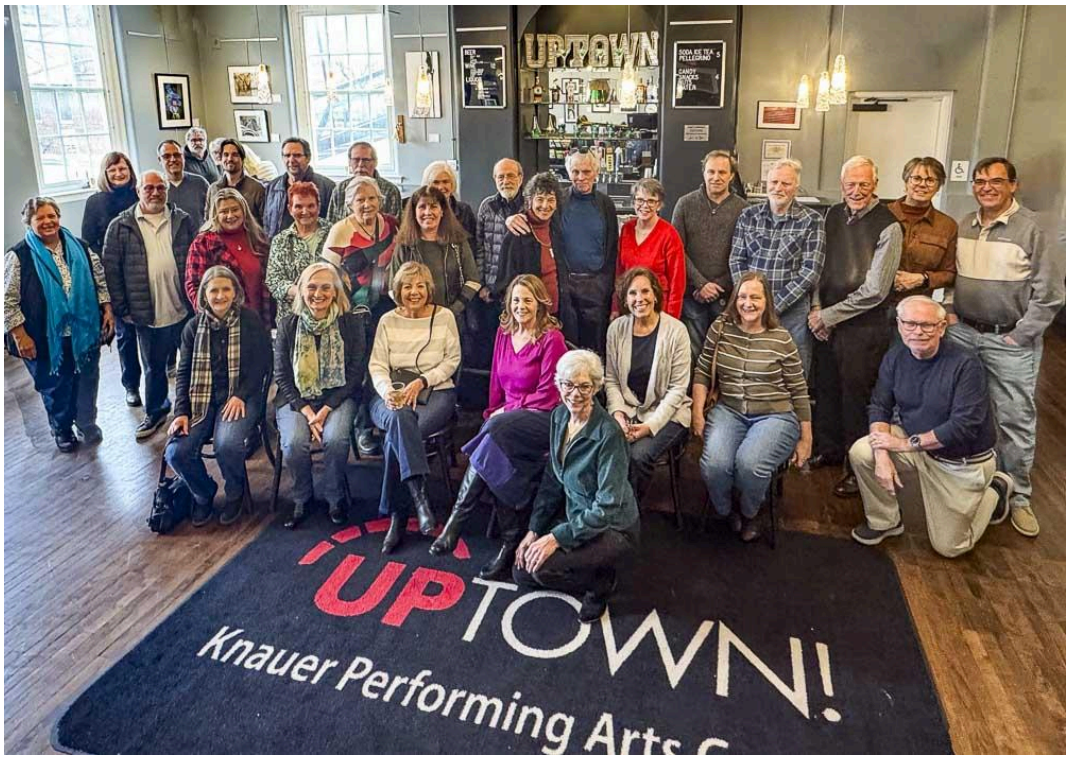
Chester County Camera Club

a community of photographers

April 2026 Newsletter

Picture Perfect Opening!



Wow! What a great opening reception we had at Uptown! Knauer Performing Arts Center! Several club members, friends, family, and some curious folks from the community came together to view the amazing artwork of our talented members that is on display.

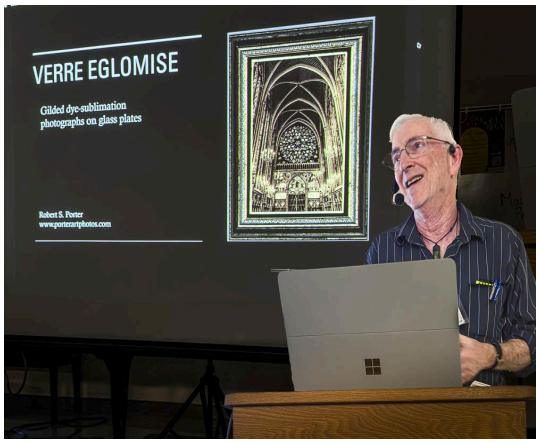
It was an honor to be invited to showcase our work and sincere thanks go out to Kathy Boyle, a CCCC member who is on the staff at Uptown, and who reached out to Jennifer to suggest exhibiting our artwork in their lounge. They worked together to promote our exhibit, hang the artwork, and welcome the artists and community to the opening. Our work looked amazing on the walls, and we know of at least one piece that sold quickly.

Best of all, we were invited to return for another exhibit at the same time next year! So start thinking about which piece you'd like to have hanging on their walls in March-April of 2027. If you weren't able to get to the opening, or know a friend or family member who would like to see our work, it will be on display through the end of April. You can visit Wed-Fri from 12:30-5:30 or two hours prior to a performance. For more information about Uptown! including directions to the Center, click here.

March Happenings:

Members Forum:
Rob Porter - "Verre Eglomise, Gilded Photos on Glass"

CCCCmembers were mesmerized by Rob Porter's presentation of his unique process of using dye-sublimation to transfer photographic images to glass plates, as well as how he applies gold leaf to create a background. He brought examples of his work to the forum and everyone lined up to enjoy a closer look. You can watch the recorded zoom presentation here.



Monthly Meeting:
Dutch Bagley - "The Awe of Capturing Architecture"

Dutch says, "Photographing a city's architecture is an enriching experience that allows you to capture the essence and character of urban landscapes. It is essential to identify the purpose of your photography. Are you aiming to capture the historical essence of the buildings, create a portfolio for architectural firms, or simply explore the aesthetic aspects of the structures? Knowing your purpose will guide your approach and the type of shots you seek. See the zoom video here.

Welcome Amigos!

Jennifer Powell was too busy eating her quesadilla to take a group shot, though she did find time to grab a take-out menu! New members, ***Bibzie Priori, Lynn Goldfinger, Scott Lind*** *and* **Sondra Cotton** met up with Jennifer, Joanne & Steve Donato and Jim Samanen for a pre-meeting dinner at Taco Maya. It was nice for some of the new members to meet each other and walk into their first in-person meeting together!

Post processing zoom group

Sue Hare challenged Buzz Mossholder to demonstrate how to add a shadow on a creative composite she did of a levitating woman. The original image had no shadow from the woman, and Buzz expertly showed the group how to add a realistic shadow on the bed. These sessions are quite interactive, with lots of questions from the group to clear up any areas that might need further understanding. A great session to learn how to improve editing skills. Watch the video here.

Technical and Creative Exchange: Picking a Camera!

Ralph Nigro gave an in-depth analysis of what to consider when getting a new camera. In this session, club members shared their experience with a number of brands and models of the most recent camera bodies. And many brought their cameras for others to check out. Lot's of lively discussion at this meeting!

Club Outing - Art Museum and Waterworks

New member Casey Fox joined the group and captured this image of a musician "Vibin'" at the top of the Art Museum steps. And of course we all had to celebrate Rocky-style on those famous steps. More images can be seen in the club gallery. (It may take a few minutes to load)

Member's Critique Workshop "Getting Supportive Feedback on your Photographs" - led by Jim Samanen

Great participation in this interactive session that gave CCCC members the opportunity to learn how critiques can improve your photography. Led by Jim Samanen, he described how to provide heartfelt, honest AND respectful feedback on your photos. We got a quick review of what makes for a great photo and best practices in photo critiquing. Then digital images were reviewed by a three-judge panel and one printed image was reviewed in a small group by your peers. A copy of the critiquing guidelines handout can be downloaded here.

Club Outing - Ryerss Farm for Aged Equines

Ryerss Farm is the oldest non-profit dedicated to the care of aged horses and retired horses in the country. Some have been abused, some injured, some retired, and others are just old. CCCC members took advantage of the opportunity to photograph the horses up close. And they made some new equine friends! Enjoy the images in the gallery (give it a minute to upload)

Zoom Preview - Airplane and Automotive Graveyard

Professional photographer and workshop leader Richard Lewis gave us a preview of what to expect at the upcoming outing to this fascinating place. He says "There is no better place to master composition than an interesting and unique environment." He shared tips to help photographers improve their composition skills by making art out of scrap, as we can see in this image of a scrapped airplane by Richard Lewis. If you missed it, you can watch the zoom recording here.

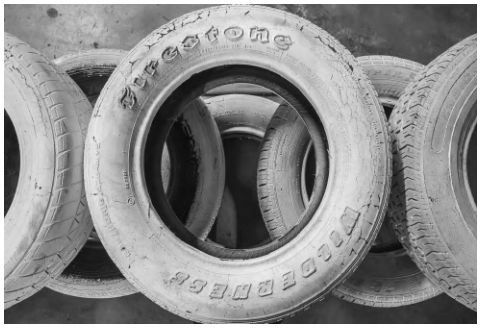
Iconic Scrapped Airplane by Richard Lewis 2023

March Competition - "High-speed Hijinks"

The challenge was to freeze fast-moving subjects in action with high-speed photography techniques, capturing split-second moments in exquisite detail. Guest judge Frank Smith took the assigned topic into consideration in his scoring, and shared observations that provided a learning experience.

First Place ribbons in the assigned category were: Navjot Hanspal for prints in both monochrome and color for "Water Drop " and "Bird Feeder". In the digital category, blue ribbons went to Lisa Suchower in color for "On My Way to Winning Yahtzee" and to Robert Porter for "Incense".

In the Open categories, Bob Friedman was awarded first place in digital color for "Hey! Sit Down, You're Blocking the View", to Jennifer Powell in monochrome print for "Firestone", to Betsy Wilson in color print for "Ancestor Treasure from WWII", and to Ralph Nigro in digital monochrome for "Valley Forge Ridge".



Congratulations to all!

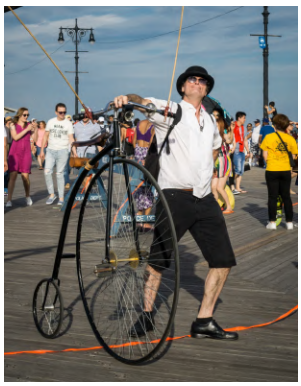
To see all images in the competition, go to [Competitions / Competitions Results](), then choose the competition (eight categories), and check the box "Display all images".

Important Announcements

It's Almost Election Time!

Our annual election process has begun with the Nominating Committee preparing the official Slate of Candidates. While most officers have expressed a willingness to continue in their role, we want to give everyone the opportunity to get involved. If you are interested in any of the officer positions (Pres, VP, Sec, Treas) or one of the two Member-at-Large roles, or have questions about what a specific role involves, contact Denise Molzhan, Chair of Nominating Committee, before April 15. The Slate of Candidates will be announced on April 22 and voting will take place at the May 13 meeting.

Coney Island Bus Trip is filling up fast!



To make sure you don't suffer from FOMO (Fear of Missing Out), reserve your spot now. It's the day of the annual Mermaid Parade, so there will be a wide range of subjects for you to photograph! The mermaids and mermen love to have their photos taken and will gladly stop, smile, and pose for you. The image shown here is by our bus trip coordinator, Howard Sundwall, on our trip in June of 2018. Click here for all details and to register.

Upcoming Events:

Monthly Critique Groups - *May 3*

Due to March having five Sundays, the Critique Groups for April were held on March 29, so the next scheduled date is May 3rd. Our critique groups are a great way to get input on your images, get inspiration from other club members, meet new friends, and spend a Sunday afternoon with others who share your passion. 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.

Members' Forum - *April 8*

Svenne Juul
Journey from Photographic Inspiration, to Video Editing App

Svenne will share the origin of his Pxlit video editing app. Inspired by a desire for 'Living Stills' to be an app that friends and strangers around the world can download and use - and a little bit about what is next.

Monthly Meeting - *April 8*

Ray Schneider - Create Compelling Picture of People

Ray will explore how to compose images with people in them that draw the viewer in, that evoke emotion, and tell a story. Posed portraits, environmental portraits, street portraiture, and travel photographs will all be included in the discussion.

Technical and Creative Exchange - *April 15*

Composing for Impact will be the topic of discussion this month. There's more to photography than mastering the equipment. We'll divert from the technical aspects of photography to composition. What are the composition tools that make a photo memorable?

Post Processing Group - *April 19 - Zoom Only*

Buzz Mossholder leads these informative sessions focused on Lightroom and Photoshop, which include live demonstrations on editing images submitted by members. Watch, ask questions, and learn! Contact Buzz for more information and to get on the distribution list.

Upcoming Outings:

Airplane Graveyard - *Saturday, April 11 - Member's Only*

Back by popular demand! We are going once again to the Auto and Airplane Graveyard in Atco, New Jersey. We'll have a run of the place from 2PM to 6PM to create great images of junked cars, trucks, buses, military vehicles, helicopters, planes, machinery and rusty stuff in general! Basically a photographer's dream come true! The image shown here is by Sue Hare taken at our 2022 outing. Click on the link above for more information.

Akshardham Hindu Temple - *Friday, April 24*

Whether you're into architectural photography, ancient religion, or just like to visit new and amazing places, you'll want to go on this outing! Situated on 185 acres, it's the largest Hindu temple in the US and includes thousands of design elements that you'll surely want to photograph! It's located in Robbinsville, NJ and carpools will be available. Click here to learn more about the temple before our trip - and be sure to check out the dress code!

Winterthur Estate and Gardens - *Friday, May 1*

Join us on May Day to celebrate spring flowers and friendship at Henry du Pont's famous 60-acre naturalistic garden, and the estate's 1,000 acres of rolling hills, meadows, and woodlands. If the weather progresses as expected, the beautiful Azalea Woods (photo shown here by Carol DeGuiseppi) should be in full bloom and provide many opportunities for floral and landscape photography. If architectural shots are your preference, the mansion is amazing and open for tours. Click here to learn more about what you can expect to see there.

Dates to Remember - Mark your Calendar!

Wed, Apr 8	Members' Forum and Monthly Meeting
Sat, Apr 11	Club Outing - Airplane Graveyard
Wed, Apr 15	Technical and Creative Exchange
Sun, Apr 19	Post-processing Group
Wed, Apr 22	Monthly Competition
Fri, Apr 24	Club Outing - Akshardham Temple
Fri, May 1	Club Outing - Winterthur
Thu, May 18	Night Sky - Instructional Meeting
Sat, May 16	Club Outing - Night Sky Photography Outing
Sat, Jun 20	Bus Trip - Coney Island - Register Now!

New Member

Welcome to our new member, **Casey Fox**! We're happy to have you and hope you enjoy all the club has to offer. We look forward to getting to know you over the coming months.

Members in the News

Congratulations to **Cathy Kuhlman** for being included as a Finalist in the 2025 Voice Photo competition. There were over 34,000 entries and 15 Best in Category winners, with 225 Finalists! This image earned a Finalist badge in the Low Light Category!

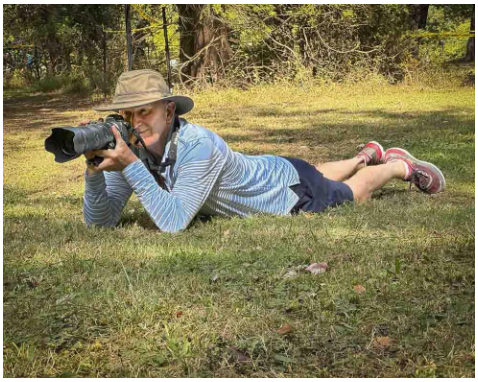
Betsy Wilson is thrilled to be included in the lineup of presenters at the Virtual Creative Photography Conference hosted by Hazel Meredith that takes place June 27 and 28. She is honored to be on the schedule along with top presenters including John Barclay and Padma Inguva. Click here for more information - there is an **early bird discount** for signups through April 8. And if you register through the link on Betsy' bio page, she gets some extra credit!

The Member Spotlight is shining on George Kunberger this month!

George has been a member of CCCC for about five years. He first got started in photography as a hobby when he retired about eight years ago.

He enjoys all types of photography, land, city, and waterscapes. product photography, architecture, etc. For the last few years, he has experimented with different ways to bring an artful expression to his photography, including black and white, composites, abstracts, filters, and different lenses.

"*I originally joined the club to make new friends, but I was surprised and delighted to discover all of the learning activities that are available. Many CCCC members are very talented and willing to share what they know. I love that about this club. I have learned a lot through the peer reviews, members forums and simply studying the images that others produce and post on our website.*" As you can see by these photos, George participates in our outings and gets down and dirty to get the perfect shot!



George majored in Chemical Engineering and after a stint in the Navy, went to work for a firm that did the design and construction of chemical plants, oil refineries, pharmaceuticals, mineral process plants etc. He worked for them for 37 years in many different capacities and traveled around most of the world working on large projects for their clients.

He is active in his community and is a member of the Optimist Club, which primarily does volunteer work in support of the youth of the community. He also supports and volunteers regularly for The Bethesda Project, a program providing homes for the homeless in Philadelphia.

Besides photography, he spends time learning about and collecting wines, and admits to being an amateur CFP (Certified Financial Planner). He loves numbers and finance and helps his kids with their financial planning. George has been married to his wife, Diane, for almost 47 years and they have three children plus their spouses so six kids in total. They enjoy travelling; this photo of them is from Banff.

Local Exhibits

If you missed the opening reception of our club exhibit at Uptown! Knauer Performing Arts Center, there's still time to view the images on display through the end of April. The center is located at 226 N. High St. in West Chester.

Opportunities to Share Your Work

Chester County in Bloom Photo Contest

It's time again for **County Lines Magazine's** annual photo contest. Submit your original, unpublished photo between March 20, 2026 and May 3, 2026 (by hashtag #chestercountyinbloom or by email to info@valleydel.com) to enter the contest.

Penn State Great Valley invites students, faculty, staff, alumni, and members of our local community to share their vision of our region through photography. ***"Through the Lens"*** celebrates creativity, connection, and pride in the campus and surrounding area. Submissions are accepted through April 30. Get all the details here.

Competition Tips:

Creative Lens Distortions is the monthly theme for April's competition. Experiment with lens distortions to add a unique twist to your photography. Whether it's through fisheye, tilt-shift, lensbaby, or Intentional Camera Movement (ICM) techniques, push the boundaries of traditional composition and perspective to create visually striking images.. Here's a link that has additional ideas and inspiration for all our monthly themes.

Website Wisdom:

Not sure how to **upload images to a club outing gallery**? Everything you need to know is on the CCCC website under Club Information / How to Upload Images to Outings Galleries. And there is never a deadline to upload images, so if you have some shots that you got around to editing from a past event, and would like to share, please do! To see all the images posted to club outing galleries, go to Galleries / Club Outings and Events (click little triangle to expand) then choose the year and the outing to view. You also can choose between "Tiled View" to quickly browse them all on one screen, or "Slide Show" for a larger view of one image at a time.

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.

The Last Laugh

Goes to Robert Fry for "Eastern Screech Owls"

A different take on the Three Monkeys
"Hear no Evil. See No Evil, Speak no Evil"

In this case it's
"I see you, I almost see you, I half-see you"