# Chester County Camera Club

a community of photographers

July / August 2025 Newsletter

## *And It's a Wrap!*

Our 2024-25 Club Year is officially down as another successful one for the books!

Our annual Year End Party and Awards Celebration was held on June 11th at the amazing Powell Party Barn - thanks again to Jennifer and Bill Powell for hosting us! Food, fun, friendship, and fotos were the top features of the evening!

In addition to the annual awards, which you can read all about on the next page, Jennifer gave a great recap of all the activities and happenings at CCCC during the past year. A few of our key objectives are education, creativity, and of course fun - and it was clearly evident that we're meeting those objectives!

Through our various programs, we've enjoyed members' forums and guest speaker presentations, monthly competitions, critiques, post-processing education, and more. And let's not forget our outings program - did you know we travelled over 1,400 miles to photograph local and some not-so-local sites!

Special thanks go out to all the folks who planned and coordinated these events and to all of **you**, who are so supportive of our club activities.

The Summer Challenge has officially begun, so we hope to see many of you over the summer. If not, don't let that camera get rusty! We hope you all have a wonderful and safe summer and see you in September!

# *Year End Party and Awards Celebration!!!*

A wonderful party hosted by incoming president Jennifer Powell and her husband Bill Powell at their party barn  - the perfect setting to celebrate yet another fantastic club year full of learning, activities, and fun!  CCCC members and guests enjoyed delicious potluck appetizers, main dishes and desserts, along with fun activities including shuffleboard and pool - and of course lots of friendship and laughter.

CCCC President Jennifer not only hosted the evening, she was excited to be honored as Photographer of the Year. Ralph shows one of the many door prizes awarded. Eva shares her joy as Sheila realizes she is about to receive the MegaPixel Award. Dean and Christine relax at one of the outdoor seating areas. Past-president Denise presided over the awards part of the ceremonies. A tray of festive and delicious artistic cookies baked by Val - they didn't last long! Val and Marguerite enjoyed the evening with many other happy CCCC members. A great time was had by all!

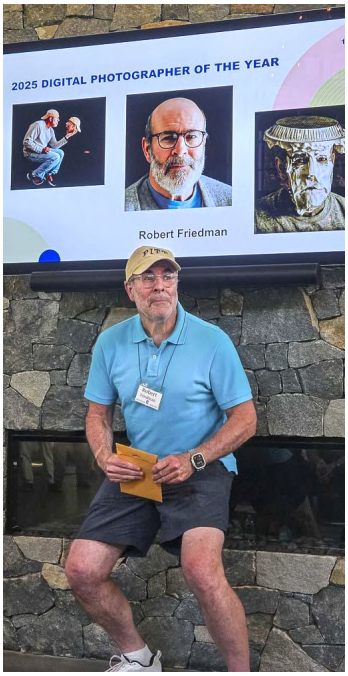
# *People's Choice Awards*

The People's Choice Award is based on the CCCC members' votes on their favorite images of all the first place ribbon winners for the year.

Second place to Wendy Summer for "Feeling Good", Third place went to Rob Porter for "Masai Kids", and First Place went to Jim Wilson for "Can't Stop the Feeling"

You can see a pdf of the slide show of the awards here.

Congratulations to all the honorees at the CCCC awards celebration!




# Photographers of the Year!

## Robert Friedman and Jennifer Powell

The Photographer of the Year Award goes to the CCCC member who has won the most awards in our monthly competitions. The winner in the digital category was Robert Friedman, and the winner in the print category was Jennifer Powell.

## Megapixel Award recipient – Sheila Fredericks

The Megapixel Award each year goes to an exceptional volunteer for commendable service and dedication. This year we salute Sheila Fredericks for her years of Competition support; always keeping the projector calibrated and flawlessly running the competition scoring program. Sheila serves on the Steering Committee as a Member at Large, and is always willing to help out with a smile. Congratulations Sheila!

## Say Cheese!

Lots of smiles for all the deserving awardees of the evening. To see a pdf of the awards presentation, click here.

# Summer Happenings:

## *Club Outing - Mt. Cuba Center*

A great turnout of photographers who met up at Mt. Cuba Center, a hidden gem just over the border in Delaware, that is known for native plantings and wildflowers. CCCC members meandered along the paths lined with a myriad of flowers and shrubs, ponds, meadows, and formal gardens.
Enjoy the variety of springtime captures in the gallery.

## *Club Outing - Velodrome Racing*

Action Photography! Lots of excitement watching and photographing the cycling races at the Valley Preferred Cycling Center. As a follow up to last month's Mentor Meeting that focused on motion panning, quite a few CCCC photographers gave it a try, as you can experience the motion of mostly focused subjects speeding past a blurred background. Hard to do, but captured well by Ralph Nigro, Jennifer Powell and Tom Weishaar. Check out the gallery of images here.

## *Summer Challenge Meetup in West Chester*

The ***Summer Challenge*** is now underway, so don't put that camera away! Our first summer meetup was in downtown West Chester where we looked for interesting sights and perhaps a few of the challenge items to photograph. It was a warm day, so some CCCC members cooled down with a cool drink before enjoying a fun and delicious dinner in a private room at Limoncello. There is still time to join in this wonderful opportunity to stay engaged with the club during the summer months when we don't have formal meetings.

# Important Announcements:

It's almost that time of the year again! Time to renew your CCCC membership for another year of photo fun! The good news is, there's no inflation here - our dues are remaining the same. What a great deal for all the benefits we get - guest speakers, member presentations, education and inspiration, outings, workshops, and more! Details will be sent via email around mid-August with instructions on how to renew and pay via PayPal.

# Upcoming Events:

***Summer Challenge Meet-Up #2 Wednesday, July 23***

Historic Yellow Springs

The 2nd Summer Challenge Meetup will be at 6:00 PM in Historic Yellow Springs with a dinner to follow at Bloom Southern Kitchen. Details have been sent via email, so be sure to read it and rsvp with a resounding YES!!! Hope to see many of you there. It's a great way to stay connected over the summer.

## Monthly Critique Groups - August 10

While we take a break from our regular meetings over the summer, the Monthly Critique Groups, which meet both in-person and via zoom, do not miss a beat! It's a great way to stay connected, share your work and benefit from constructive input and inspiration from your peers. Simply contact Jim Samanen and he'll get you all set up.

## Post Processing Group

This group will resume meeting again in September. Leader Buzz Mossholder will continue with his interactive zoom sessions, explaining how to use lightroom and photoshop tools, which many have found very helpful. What do you want to learn regarding post-processing? Buzz is asking for input as he works on creating lessons over the summer to rollout next year. Send your ideas to Buzz Mossholder

# Upcoming Outings:

While our club outings take a break over the summer, our outings coordinator, Jim Wilson, is busy working behind the scenes to bring us some exciting new outings for the next club year. Here's the first one!

***Bryn Athyn Cathedral - Friday, September 19***

Get those wide angle lenses out and get ready for some amazing architectural photography! We'll visit the historic Bryn Athyn Cathedral and surrounding areas. More details will be provided in the September newsletter.

## Dates to Remember - Mark your Calendar!

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| Wed, Jul 23 | Summer Challenge Meetup #2 |
| Wed, Aug 20 | Summer Challenge Potluck |
| Sun Sept 7 | Critique Groups |
| Wed, Sept 10 | Welcome Back Meeting |
| Wed, Sept 17 | Mentor Meeting |
| Fri, Sept 19 | Club Outing - Bryn Athyn Cathedral |

# *The Member Spotlight is shining on Anette Karlsson this month!*

Anette is relatively new to CCCC. She joined about a year ago, and quickly got involved by making friends, going on outings, and participating in the various club offerings.

This year, she will plan and organize the Members' Forum sessions, which gives her a seat at the table of the Steering Committee. We look forward to seeing what she has planned.

Anette has been interested in photography most of her life, mostly admiring other people's work. When she moved to Arizona for work a few years back, she was so fascinated by the light and the colors created by the landscape and the sun, and she wanted to capture the beauty. Her mobile phone didn't live up to her expectations, so she broke down and got her first "real" camera, a Sony A6000. She soon realized that capturing the landscape was a challenge, but it got her outside at all times of the day chasing the colors!

When asked about her favorite genre, Anette shared, "*I admire a range of photography from other photographers, so it is hard to say what is my favorite. I started trying to capture landscape, nature and animals, and have worked on portrait photography. Currently, I'm fascinated by details that I find in nature, including flowers or various textures.*"

CCCC has been a great experience for Anette since she joined. The outings have inspired her to consider a variety of subjects to photograph. "*The ability to discuss photography with others, during outings, meetings and the Sunday photo review meetings have been so useful and fun.*"

Anette is a mechanical and aerospace engineer by training, and spent about 30 years in higher education, with the last fifteen or so years in various leadership roles. Her last position was the Chancellor for a college campus in central Arizona.

Volunteer work is important to her, and she currently volunteers her time at the Thorncroft Equestrian Center, which provides therapeutic lessons for individuals of all ages and abilities. She works with horse care and support for lessons. Additionally, she volunteers at Longwood Gardens as a Visitor Center Garden Greeter - and she gets to take photos of flowers! In both roles, she meets a lot of different people, and says she learns something new every day.

In her spare time, Anette enjoys going for hikes, and like most of us, preferably with her camera!

After Anette decided to leave her position in Arizona, she and her husband moved to the West Chester Area. They didn't know anyone here, but picked the location based on several factors that were important to them. One of the first things she did after they moved was to reach out to CCCC, and she shared that "*it has been so great to get to know everyone in the club. Everyone has been so welcoming. This is such a great club!*" We agree, Anette, and we're so happy to have you!

# *Learning Opportunities*

Lightroom Virtual Summit 2025 - September 15-19

Save the Date for this annual summit that features many exceptional instructors - all from the convenience of your home!

LinkedIn Learning is now free! To anyone who has an active Chester County Library card. Just login with your card number and PIN and get access to 16,000 instructional courses, including many photography courses. There are 142 courses just about photoshop!

# *Opportunities to Show Your Work*

Philadelphia Flower Show 2026 will be held February 28-March 8. Grab your camera and start capturing the beauty of the season today, with the theme "Rooted" in mind. Full rules will be announced in the 2026 Exhibitor's Guide, available in September. Click here for a list of the categories.

Susquehanna Greenway Annual Photo Contest

Embrace the art of storytelling through four dynamic categories: Recreation, Transportation, River Towns, and Wildlife. Each image should capture a unique aspect of life along the Susquehanna, showcasing the adventures, connections, and natural beauty that make this landscape so special. Cash prizes, but hurry - deadline is July 31!

# *Competition Tips:*

Here are the themes that were announced at the year end party on June 11. The order is subject to change, so keep an eye on the website for any updates. Here's a link that also has ideas and inspiration for the themes.

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| September | Local Landscape Culture |
| October | Panning Perfection |
| November | Abstract Textures |
| January | Bokeh Bliss |
| February | Forced Perspective Illusions |
| March | High-Speed Hijinks |
| April | Creative Lens Distortions |
| May | Environmental Portraits |

**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 Tom Weishaar

Was Tom just clowning around and having fun at the recent club outing to the Velodrome?

or

Did his expression have something to do with the line of Port-a-Potties behind him?