Chester County Camera Club

a community of photographers

October 2024 Newsletter

Welcome Back!!
And, Oh What a Welcome it Was!

The 2024-25 Camera Club Year is off to a great start! Our "Welcome Back" meeting on September 11, was certainly one for the books!

With over forty members in attendance and more zooming in, we had a full house including several new members. Our "Show and Tell" was a big hit and several folks participated. Newer members, Seth Koss, Ralph Nigro, and first timer, Laura Ducceschi shared images and their thought processes behind it.

Incoming President, Jennifer Powell, shared results of a recent survey, introduced the Steering Committee, and outlined her vision for the upcoming year.

Here's a brief note from Jennifer:

I want to thank the Steering Committee and Chairpersons for all their hard work this summer, creating a successful kickoff. It's been great to see so many old faces and new ones too. We have so many different opportunities for members and it's been great to see so many of you taking advantage of all the club has to offer.

Important Announcements:

Membership Renewal

By now, mostly everyone has renewed their membership. Thanks for your decision to continue with CCCC! If you are one of the procrastinators, renew now before your current membership expires at the end of October. Simply click on this link that will take you to our membership page. Scroll down and complete steps 1 and 2 in the "How to Join or Renew" section. *Note: you must complete both steps for your renewal to be valid.*

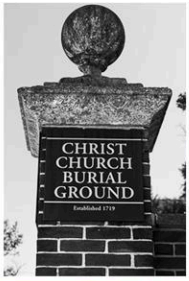
Spring Bus Trip - Saturday, May 17

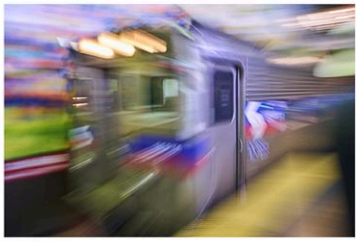
We are so happy to announce that Howard Sundwall, bus trip coordinator and tour guide extraordinaire, has another bus trip in the planning stages, this time to ***Annapolis and Baltimore***. More details will be coming in the spring, but we wanted to make sure you save the date!

September Happenings:

First Outing! Old City Philly Photowalk

Old and new CCCC members gathered in Philly to enjoy a beautiful summer day exploring the sights of Old Historic Philadelphia as well as some more modern attractions. And they came back with a gallery full of great images!





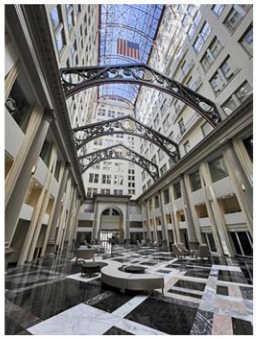
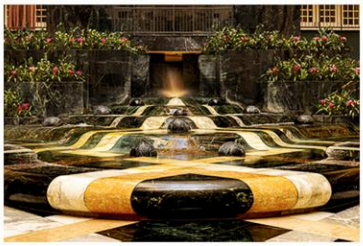



Photo credits: Top row: Chris Shigley, Douglas Cinoman, Ralph Nigro. Middle Row: Scott Ashenfelter, Betsy Wilson, Jennifer Powell. Bottom row: Group shot (by Chris Shigley's wife), Atala Toy, Tom Weishaar, and Jennifer Powell.

First Meeting - Welcome back and welcome new members!

Members Forum Coordinator Sue Hare initiated and organized a terrific way to start off the new year with a “show and tell” by members. Both in-person and at-home attendees participated by sharing a print or digital image and talking about their motivation for the shot. This very interactive session was followed by an update by Svenne Juul about his fascinating new app called Pxlit.

CCCC President Jennifer Powell then shared a slide presentation that outlined the results of last year’s member survey and many of the basics of the club - what the club offers, what’s on the website, club communications, and more. She invited each officer and committee chair to give a one-minute description of their role and what’s new for this year

Always a great way to get members to mingle and get to know one another - meet at the snack table! Enjoying the delicious treats are Sheila Fredericks, Sue Hare, and Leo Voltz in this fun photo snapped by Kathy Koons. Pat Rhubottom and Nima Marsh enjoy getting a closer look at one of the “show and tell” images, and Jennifer Powell channels her inner Vanna White role as she displays an image by Jim Wilson. Svenne wowed the crowd with some amazing motion magic techniques he has developed for his new Pxlit app.

Mentor Meeting - where learning takes place!

Led by Gary Altoonian, the meeting started with the group gathering around the table to see “what’s in Gary’s camera bag”. Following a presentation of this year’s preliminary schedule and some photography basics, attendees broke into groups by camera make. The groups shared opinions on gear, camera settings and got to make new friends. Mentees were asked to submit images that will be used in a critique next month - a great way to learn!

Club Outing - Cyclocross

The Carpenter Cross Cyclocross Race in Horsham provided a unique opportunity for camera club members to get very close to the action and practice various motion photo techniques. A variety of lenses and camera angles resulted in many unique images, as displayed in the club gallery. New members got to know seasoned members, and lots of photo tips were shared while witnessing the cyclists versatility.

The track featured a mix of surfaces including grass, dirt, sand, and even barriers of logs and steps that required competitors to dismount and carry their bikes, which created visually captivating moments as participants leaped over barriers and wiped out in the sand pit. Captures of cyclists in action L to R: Chris Shigley, Patricia Verbovszky, and Joseph Caulfield, and a candid by Betsy Wilson of George Kunberger doing what it takes to get the shot.

Critique Group

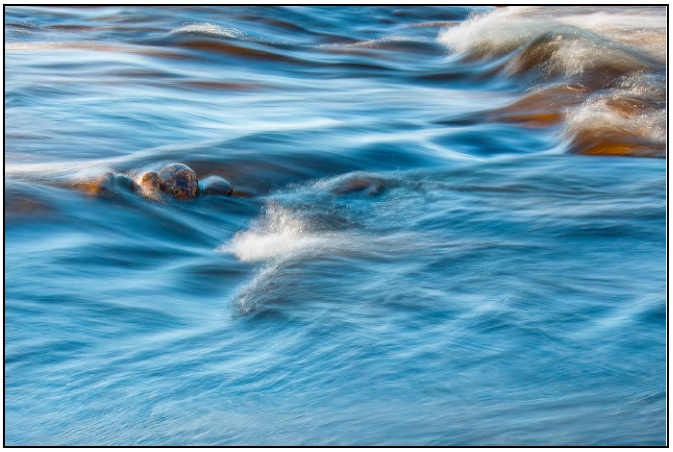
The in-person critique group was graciously hosted by Sue and Joe Hare. Participants shared their prints and received feedback from the others. Each month, CCCC members can choose to participate either in-person or via zoom - a great way to get to know one another and get valuable suggestions.

Post Processing Zoom Group

Hosted by Buzz Mossholder, the session began with image editing. Gary Altoonian showed how he makes amazing improvements to portrait images using a program called Evoto. Bob Friedman demonstrated how he would edit a landscape image that was submitted for editing by Denise Molzahn. Lots of questions as everyone on the zoom session learned some new ways to use post-processing tools. The video of the zoom session is on the Club's YouTube Channel - click here.

September Competition - "Long Exposure Magic"

The challenge was to capture the essence of motion and time through long exposure photography. Whether it's silky waterfalls, star trails, or light painting, CCCC members served up quite a creative variety of long exposure techniques. Guest judge Don Schroder provided positive observations and comments and offered up suggestions for making images even better. It was a great learning experience for all!



First Place ribbons were awarded to: Atala Toy in the assigned print color category for "Sunset and the Tide is Coming In", and to Jennifer Powell in the assigned print monochrome category for "Coasting".

Sally Loken earned the first place ribbon in the assigned digital color category with "Surf's Up!!!", and the first place award in the assigned digital monochrome category went to Jim Wilson for "Can't Stop the Feeling".

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

Upcoming Events:

Monthly Critique Group - October 6

The critique group is off to a great start! If you're looking for valuable input from peers and suggestions on improving your photography, you might want to consider joining this group - they meet both in person and via zoom, typically on the first Sunday of the month. It's a great way to mix and mingle with fellow club members and get tips to improve your photos at the same time!! If this sounds like something of interest to you, simply contact Jim Samanen to get you all set up!

Members' Forum - October 9

Intentional Camera Movement (ICM)
Carol DeGuiseppi

If you like abstract or impressionist photography, you'll want to make sure you join us for this Members' Forum in which Carol will walk us through some of her favorite ICM techniques. To see some of her ICM and other images, visit her website.

Monthly Meeting - October 9

Guest Speaker - Jennifer Gershon
Fine Art Portraiture

Jennifer is a photographer from New Hope, PA specializing in fine art portraiture in the painterly style. Her work is inspired by the Old Masters and explores the play of light to create striking images with lush color, texture and dimensionality. She is a member of the Professional Photographers' Association of Pennsylvania and has exhibited her works in Bucks County, PA, Philadelphia and New York. You can follow her on Instagram: @vizzzuals | @vizzzualsfaces |@still_vizzzuals.

Post Processing Group - October 20

As we indicated in the last newsletter, this group is experimenting with a new format this year. This month the entire group will discuss one or two images and suggest how it might be processed. We will make the suggested edits as we go and decide if each works to produce the desired effect.

If you want to enhance your post-processing skills in Lightroom and PhotoShop, this may be the group for you. Contact Buzz Mossholder and let him know of your interest.

Mentor/Mentee Meeting - *October 16*

Are you new to photography? Do you want to improve your photography? Or do you want to share your knowledge and expertise with those who can benefit from your guidance? Join the Mentor/Mentee Group!! New member, but certainly not new to photography, Gary Altoonian, is our new Chairperson of this group focused on learning. In-person meetings are the third Wednesday of the month. At the October meeting, we will begin with a critique of images submitted by those who will be attending the meeting, followed with exercises for photographing something in the room in a fully lit environment and one with lower light conditions. Images to be critiqued at the next meeting should be sent to Gary at garyaltoonian@gmail.com by October 11th.

Upcoming Outings:

Steelstacks *Saturday, October 5*

The old Bethlehem Steel is long-gone, but in its place we have Steel Stacks, a photographer's dream, assuming you probably love photographing rust and unique architecture! It looks like Connie Snyder captured both in this image from a club outing a few years ago. An Oktoberfest festival will provide lots of fun photo ops, and an optional side trip to a unique cemetery is also in the plans. Check out all the details on the CCCC schedule page.

Bushkill Falls *Thursday, October 17*

Bushkill Falls has been called "The Niagara of Pennsylvania," and is among the Keystone State's most famous scenic attractions. This unique series of eight waterfalls, nestled deep in the wooded Pocono Mountains, is accessible through an excellent network of hiking trails and bridges which afford fabulous views of the falls and the surrounding forest. What a great place to practice some Long Exposure Photography! All the details are on the CCCC schedule page, and you can read more about the falls here.

WCU Homecoming Game *Saturday, October 26*

Join the excitement at WCU as they celebrate Homecoming 2024! Football, marching band, and cheerleaders are all great photo opportunities - and don't forget about the fans in the stands! Svenne Juul will be leading this outing and he has once again secured three coveted field-level passes for our group. If you know you will definitely want to attend and see the action from the field, let Svenne know now!

Our Member Spotlight is shining on Sally Loken this month!

Sally joined our club in the fall of 2015, so she's coming up on her ninth year of active participation!!

She became interested in photography once she gave up golf and wanted something she could do with Eric, her husband who is also a very active member of CCCC. He was taking such great photos and Sally wanted to be a part of all the fun. The one drawback was carrying around heavy equipment, so after some camera research, she decided on Olympus and hasn't looked back! We guess it was the right choice for her, because she can carry it and gets amazing shots!!

Her favorite type of photography is travel and specifically travel for wildlife photography. Sally and Eric have made quite a few trips to Africa for wildlife photography and she says, "*it is magical.*" Their three favorite places in Africa are Masai Mara in Kenya, Zimanga in South Africa and the Chobe River in Botswana, and several of her wildlife images have received ribbons in CCCC competitions. Who can blame her for returning to Africa so many times when she gets adorable photos like this mom and baby!

They also do quite a bit of cultural travel with the University of Washington alumni association. While these are not dedicated photo trips, they always have their cameras with them and enjoy photographing wherever they go. When she's home, she enjoys photographing birds and bugs, flowers and also ICM.

Sally enjoys the various club outings and participating in the competitions and receiving feedback from the various judges. She's inspired by all the talent of the club members and the various photographic techniques the club members utilize.

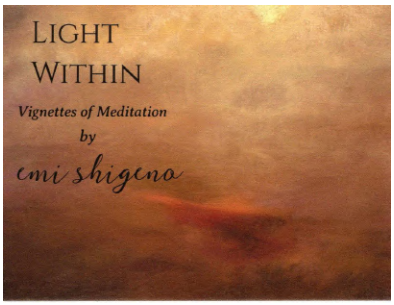
Before moving to PA to take care of her elderly parents, Sally worked for two allergists in St Louis doing their patient and insurance billing. In her spare time, when she isn't traveling the world, Sally likes to garden, bake, and read (mostly mysteries). She is also involved in several projects through her church.

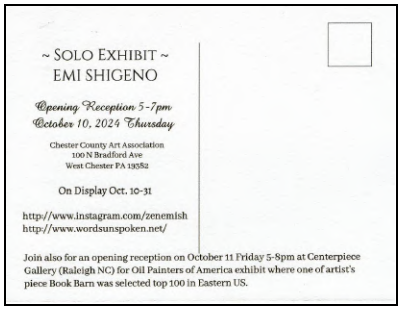
New Members

We're happy to welcome a few new members and one returning member to CCCC. Word must be getting around about what a great club we are! A warm CCCC welcome to Bernadette Mathis, Dave Lakatos, Laura Ducceschi, David Ward and Marie Anette Karlsson, and welcome back Mayra Talunas and Nancy Cordaro. We look forward to getting to know you and getting reacquainted in the coming months. We hope you enjoy all the club has to offer. Apologies to Patricia Verbovszky for mis-spelling her name in last month's newsletter.

Members in the News

Gary Altoonian was the subject of a recent article in the Daily Local News, entitled: *Gary Altoonian, a photographer, presenter, learner and mentor* Click here to see the article.





Congratulations to **Emi Shigeno** on her first solo painting exhibit at Chester County Art Association coming up this month. The opening reception is on Thurs, October 10 from 5-7, a perfect opportunity to stop by and support a fellow CCCC member. Here's the official announcement.

This beautiful lotus image will be one of 14 framed prints by **Buzz Mossholder** that will be on display at the Easttown Library in Berwyn for the month of October. Stop by to check it out if you get the chance. The library is located at 720 First Avenue, Berwyn, PA and here is a link to their website.

Opportunities to Share your Work

If you're thinking about submitting images for the flower show, do it now! Deadline for submissions is October 28th. You can see all their Artistic Classes here - just scroll down to Photography for details. You'll also be able to access the complete exhibitors guide that includes all important dates.

Learning Opportunities

Mid-Atlantic Photo Visions (MAPV) is returning to an in-person event after 5 years. This weekend event takes place Nov 2 and 3 at the Hylton Center in Manassas, VA, and includes an incredible lineup of renowned photography speakers, hands on workshops, an exciting photo exhibit of amazing member photos, and visits with manufacturer representatives.

Advanced Wildlife Photography Techniques with Nikon Ambassador Kristi Odom. EVERYONE IS INVITED!
Zoom Meeting With **Nikon Ambassador Kristi Odom**
Thu, Oct 17, 7:00 PM ET
Generously offered by the Lehigh Valley Camera Club.
Advance registration is required - click here for info.

Dates to Remember

Sat, Oct 5	Club Outing - Steel Stacks
Sun, Oct 6	Critique Group
Wed, Oct 9	Monthly Meeting and Members' Forum
Wed, Oct 16	Mentor-Mentee Meeting
Thurs, Oct 17	Club Outing - Bushkill Falls
Sun, Oct 20	Post-Processing Group
Wed, Oct, 23	Monthly Competition
Wed, Nov 6	Mentor Meeting
Sun, Nov 10	Elmwood Park Zoo
Wed, Nov 14	Members Forum and Outside Speaker
Sat, Nov 16	Club Outing - National Dog Show
Wed, Nov 20	Monthly Competition
Sat, Dec 7	Holiday Party - noon-3pm
Sat, May 17	Bus Trip to Annapolis and Baltimore - Hold the Date!

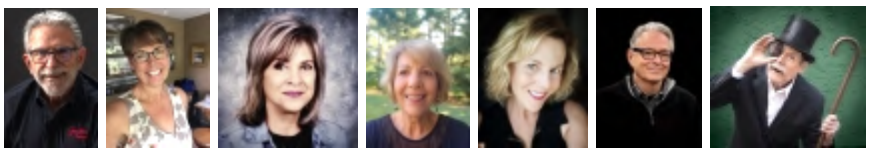
Competition Tips:

The assigned theme for October's monthly competition is ***Macro Marvels.*** Zoom in on the intricate details of the world around us. Explore the tiny universes that often go unnoticed with macro photography techniques. From insects to flowers, or anything in-between, reveal the beauty in the small. Refer to this list for a listing of the competition themes and suggestions and inspiration for each.

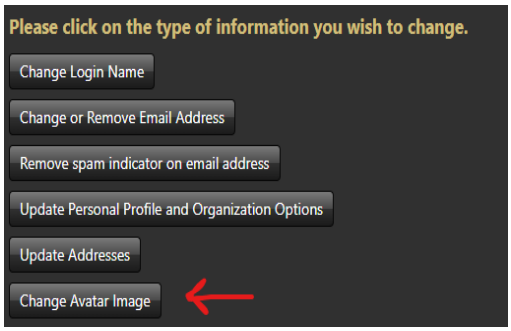
Want to enter the print category? Jack's Cameras in Exton offers 20% off prints (in store pickup only). Use the code CCCC20 when ordering online (Online Photo Prints | Camera Spot) or mention CCCC when ordering in the store.

Website Wisdom:

Let's get to know one another - Update your photo on the Membership page!



Have you met fellow members at a meeting only to forget their name later on? Many members have uploaded their image on their membership listing - it is easy to do, and we encourage all members to include a photo of yourself. It will help us to attach a name to that familiar face!
Be sure you are logged in, then go to My Account / My Account settings. Click on Change Avatar Image and upload your photo.



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
Jennifer Powell

If you ever wonder what a day in the life of a horse photographer would be like, here's your answer!

"What did I do this afternoon? Scout out horses for a photoshoot.... "Ok Party Boy, lift your chin so I don't see your jowls... ok, that's too much... tilt your head... no, no, no... perfect!!!"