# Chester County Camera Club

a community of photographers

**September 2023 Newsletter**

# *Foto Friends Having Fun!!*

*Photo by Drew Boardman of the Colonial Theater*

Our club is well known for fotos, friends, and fun and this image is proof of that! This year's Summer Challenge theme was "*Let's Go to the Movies*" and one of the movies was "The Blob". What better place to have an outing than the historic Colonial Theater in Phoenixville, whose claim to fame is The Blob!

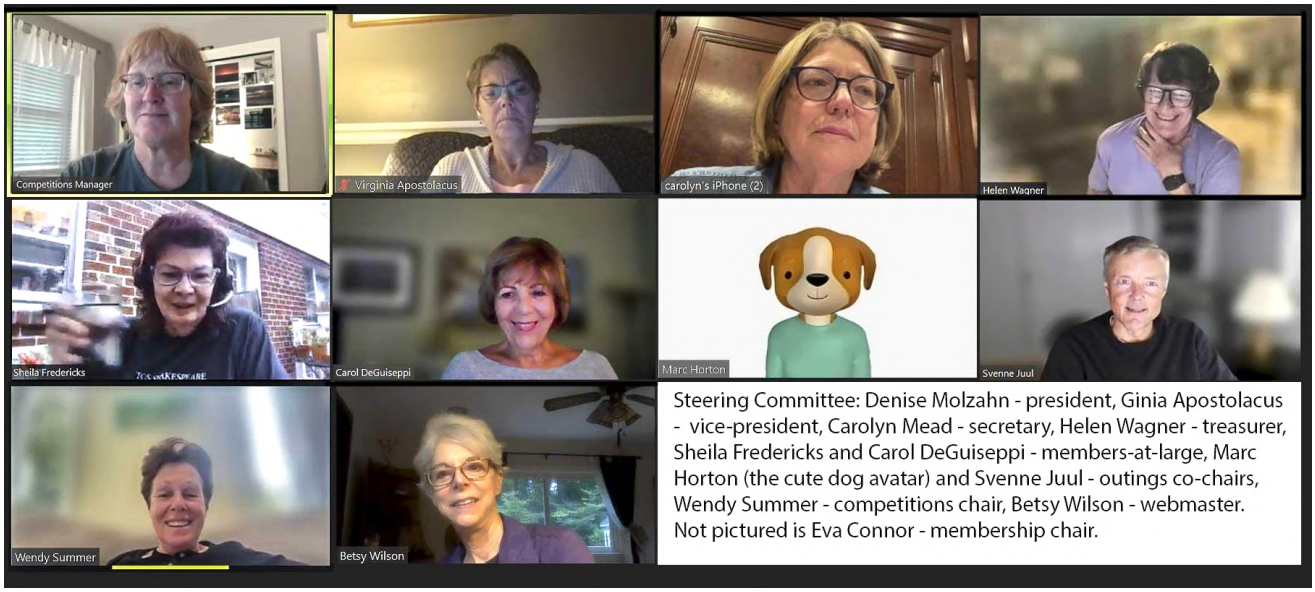
If you joined in this outing, you surely had a fun time. If you didn't go because you felt you don't know other club members well enough, or are new to the club, you missed out on a good time! As the new club year begins, we hope everyone will make a New Club Year Resolution to make new photo friends, go on more outings, and get involved in all the club has to offer. You will gain inspiration and knowledge from each other and improve your photography all while having a great time!

President, Denise Molzhan, extends a warm welcome to all new and returning members: "*Our club is about learning, sharing, and camaraderie. With outings, guest speakers, workshops, mentor programs, and parties, there is something for everyone and everyone is made to feel welcome. So come join us and join in the fun!*"

# Don't' Delay -- Renew Today:

Thanks to everyone who jumped on the bandwagon and renewed early! We know you're ready and won't want to miss a single event. If you haven't already renewed, do it now! It's quick and easy and can be done completely on-line. Simply click here to go to the Membership and Visitor Info Page. Then scroll down to the bottom and you'll see a link to the 2023-24 Membership Application/Renewal Form. Click on that and you'll be walked through the process, including your payment options.

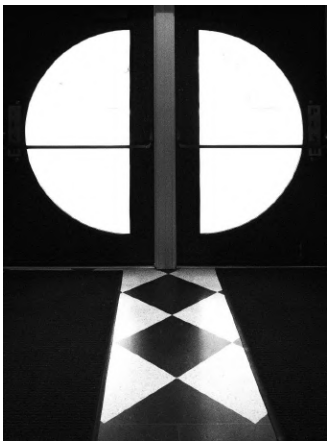
# CCCC Steering Committee at Work



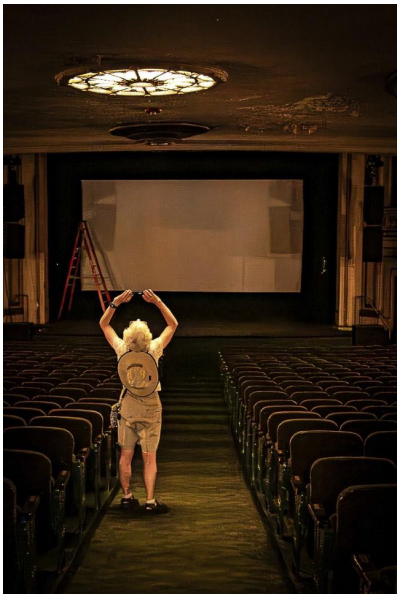

CCCC President Denise Molzahn presided over a zoom meeting of the CCCC Steering Committee, which is made up of elected officers and members-at-large, along with key committee chairs. Lively discussion took place to ensure  a great year for the club, including a terrific line-up of knowledgeable and interesting speakers, and an exciting list of club activities including outings and workshops. Ideas were shared about ways to increase participation in club competitions, and to ensure newer members quickly feel comfortable in our environment of connectivity and sharing. And everyone agreed that the best way to accomplish these goals is to hear from all of you - so look for a survey coming to you soon!

Click here to see a list of the entire list of dedicated CCCC volunteers, and consider signing up for a committee!

# Summer Highlights:



## *Summer Challenge Meetup in Phoenixville*

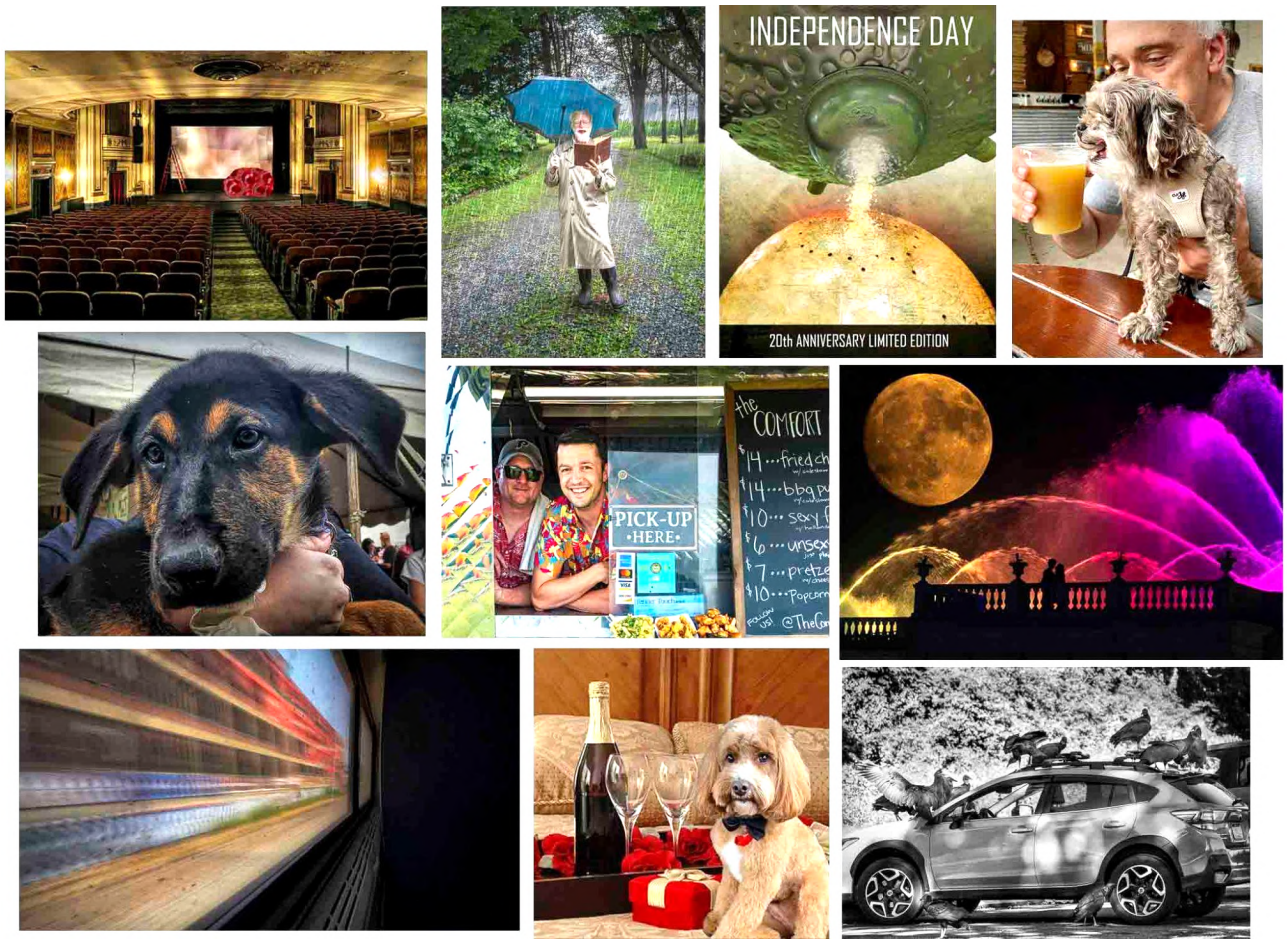


The second summer challenge gathering took place in the funky downtown of Phoenixville.  This special meetup started with a group tour of the Bluebird Distillery, after which the Colonial Theater opened its doors to our group for interior photography of the lobby, theater, and concession stand. After some street photography opportunities, the evening was capped off with a delicious dinner at Sage Mediterranean Cuisine. Above are a few images from inside the Colonial Theatre in Phoenixville: (L to R) “Let me Out” by Denise Molzahn,  “Exit” by Douglas Cinoman, and “Anita in Action” by Eva Connor.

## *Summer Challenge Screening Party*

Participants of the challenge gathered at the home of Helen Wagner for a delicious potluck dinner and enjoyed the world premier viewing of the gallery of images for the theme “Let’s Go to the Movies.”  Lots of laughter and fun as everyone marveled at the creative interpretation of this year’s challenging topics to illustrate the ten assigned movie titles.

Thank you to Stephanie Vacek and Anita Bower for coordinating the Summer Challenge, and a shout out to Helen Wagner who gracefully invited the whole gang to enjoy a potluck dinner and screening of the images in her beautiful home.




**"Let's Go to the Movies!"** Summer Challenge images submitted by CCCC participants showed a wide variety of interpretations, and LOTS of creativity! Top row: **"The Blob"** by Douglas Cinoman, **"Singing in the Rain"** by Anita Bower, **"Independence Day"** by Susan Lowry Hare, **"The Secret Life of Pets"** by Stephanie Vacek. Middle row: **"Babe"** by Sheila Fredericks, **"Guess Who's Coming to Dinner"** by Jennifer Powell, **"Moonstruck"** by Carol DeGuiseppi. Bottom row: **"Speed"** by Valerie Dunn, **"The Days of Wine and Roses"** by Lee Ann Embry, **"The Birds"** by Susan Jones. To see all the images, click on the **movie title in blue bold typeface** in the sentence above - there is a separate gallery for each movie title. Enjoy!

# Upcoming Events:

## *Monthly Critique Group* - *September 10*

While this members-only group typically meets the first Sunday of the month, the Labor Day holiday took precedence and they will meet on the second Sunday this month. This dedicated group of photographers meets year round (no summer break here!) both in-person and via zoom where participants engage in constructive critiques among peers. If you're interested, contact Jim Samanen and he'll get you all set up!

# Members Forum - September 13

## Three Inches or Less with Anita Bower

Longtime club member and volunteer, Anita Bower will share some of her macro photography tips with us for our first Members Forum of the year. Macro is more than just flowers, and she'll share how she got interested in photographing images (like her image shown here) that belong to a tiny world of items that are three inches or less!!

# First Meeting of the Year - September 13

## Guest Speaker - Kristine Di Grigoli

## ArtChick®'s Creative World: Where Imagination Meets Reality

You won't want to miss our first meeting of the year, which is sure to have a "Wow" factor as Kristine shares her photographic style with us. She is a talented photographer who has honed her skills through studies at Rutgers University and the School of Visual Arts. With a specialization in conceptual and commercial photography, Kristine has developed a keen eye for capturing unique and thought-provoking images. If you want to check out some of her work beforehand, click here.

# Post-Processing Zoom Group - September 17

Buzz Mossholder plans to pick up where he left off in the spring with this popular post-processing group. The first three sessions will focus on Color, which is considered to be one of the most important elements in PhotoShop. Specific topics will include global color adjustments, the LR calibration panel, channel mixer adjustment layer, and much more! Those of you who registered for this should have all the details, including your homework for September, in an email from Buzz. If you'd like to join in the learning and fun, contact Buzz.

# Cell phone Workshop - September 23

Do you have a Photographer's sketchbook? As an artist, how do you capture your thoughts, inspirations, ideas, interest? Do you use your cell camera as a creative sketchbook? Join CCCC member Wayne Dixon for a short photowalk around WestChester, then gather at the Chester County Library for a thought provoking session on how to embrace that phone in your pocket to unleash creative ideas. Sign up now - limited to 20 people.

## *Mats and Mounts Workshop* – *October 21*

*Deadline to register Saturday, September 30*

If you would like to learn more about matting and mounting a photo - this workshop is for you! Jim Samanen and the workshop committee will lead you in an afternoon of presentation, demonstration and hands-on photo matting and mounting. You will bring two photos and work with them to create mats and mounts for your photos! There will be a nominal fee to cover the cost of supplies. To sign up - simply send an email to Jim Samanen and he will save a spot for you.

# Upcoming Outings:

## *Plantation Field International Horse Trials* - *September 24*

This elite, international event is an annual happening in Chester County horse country. The athletic performances of both horses and riders are amazing, and the people are always interesting. Lots of opportunities to practice different types of photography at what is sure to be a fun outing.

# Important Announcements:

## *Changes to Competition Rules*

It's a new year! We have a new competition chair (welcome Wendy Summer!), and we also have some new rules regarding our monthly competitions. The current and past competition chairs put their heads together and along with input from the Steering Committee made some revisions to encourage more submissions and yield more ribbon winners! An email with details was recently sent to all members and changes will also be discussed at the first meeting.

# *Mentor - Mentee Meetings are Back!*

Over the past few years, the Mentor-Mentee Group gradually evolved into the Post Production Group led by Buzz Mossholder, but we're happy to announce that the Mentor-Mentor Group has been resurrected and back to its original format. Jennifer Powell will lead the group and meetings will be held on the third Wednesday of each month at the church only - *no Zoom meetings.* The first meeting will be in September - look for more details to come.

# *Dates to Remember*

Wed, Sept 13 First Members Forum and Monthly Meeting for the new club year!
Sun, Sept 17 Post-Processing Zoom Group
Wed, Sept 20 Mentor-Mentee Group - in person only
Sat, Sept 23 Cell phone workshop in West Chester
Sun, Sept 24 Club Outing - Plantation Field International Horse Trials
Wed, Sept 27 First Competition of the Year - Assigned them is *The Charm of Wrinkles*
Sat, Sept 30 Registration deadline for Mats and Mounts Workshop

*Long-time member and volunteer,* ***Stephen Whitney****, is in the volunteer spotlight this month!*

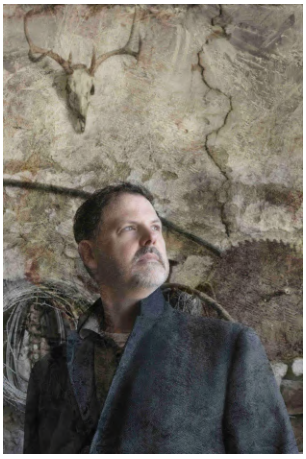
Steve has been an active member of CCCC for more than 10 years. While he doesn't currently hold an official volunteer role, he has willingly shared his time and expertise in the past, and always with a smile!

He sat on the Steering Committee as a Member at Large for two years. Additionally, he was a member of the outreach committee that organized our first exhibit at The Henry Gallery at Penn State Great Valley and he has led a few club outings to The Kuerner Farm, which is associated with the Brandywine River Museum and the site of thousands of Andrew Wyeth paintings.

Steve has been involved with photography for about 35 years. As a kid, he always had a camera in hand documenting family gatherings and vacations, and likens that to how folks always have a cell phone in hand today! His passion for photography evolved over the years and today his favorite genre is Landscape photography.

Over the past ten years, Steve has been and continues to be amazed by the quality of work created by members and has pushed himself to see the endless ways to photograph a subject. He's learned to take his time and really look at a scene to make sure what he really wants to capture and convey to his viewers before he pushes the shutter button.

In addition to photography, Steve is involved with ACT Players Theater Company where he assists with photography and video work for their local productions. He has an amazing voice and has acted/sang in a few of Act's productions, including his first role in broadway hit, "*Sweeney Todd*," and then in "*How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*" where he showed off his powerful singing voice and energetic dance moves. And, he still has time for a "real job" as an IT Telecom expense analyst!



If you know Steve, you know he is passionate about studying the work of Andrew Wyeth. He enjoys viewing his paintings in museums and exploring the areas where he painted, both in the Chadds Ford area and Maine. He's befriended folks at the Brandywine River Museum and acquaintances of the Wyeth family who have shared several personal stories with Steve. As a result of his in-depth knowledge and the influence Wyeth's paintings have had on Steve, many of his images have that "Wyeth" feel to them. The photo on the left was taken by Betsy Wilson on a club outing to the Kuerner Farm in the barn where the famous painting "Spring Fed" was created.

Steve grew up visiting the coast of Maine with his family every summer and continues to travel, explore, and enjoy that area with friends and family. It's safe to say he loves all things Maine and New England! Including Lobsta!!

# *New Members*

Welcome to ***Drew Aungst,*** who joined us over the summer. We look forward to getting to know you and your photographic style in the coming months, and hope you take advantage of all our great member benefits!

**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.

# Opportunities to Show Your Work:

## *Scenes of the Schuylkill - Call for Artists*

Whether you bike, hike, or paddle along the trails and rivers, the Schuylkill is a big part of the Chester and Montgomery County landscape. Here's your chance to give back to the community and enter your watershed related art for this juried show and their annual fundraiser and sale. Click here for full details and submission information.

## *Philadelphia Flower Show*

It may only be September, but it's time to think about entering your images for the Philadelphia Flower Show in March 2024. Past shows have featured several ribbon-winning images by CCCC members. You can begin submitting images on September 15. Get all the information you need right here.

## *Competition Themes*

The assigned theme this month is *The Charm of Wrinkles*, which is likely to bring a myriad of images depending on how it's interpreted.

If you need some inspiration or more information with this theme or any other monthly theme, check our website under club information>competition info>2023-2024 competition themes, or simply click here.

## *Learning Opportunities*

### Free Photography Expo Sept 6-7 Javits Center, NYC

B&H is proud to present the inaugural Bild Expo, a special, new event celebrating photo, video, and audio creativity. Bild, the Yiddish word for 'image,' represents B&H's 50-year commitment to supporting visual and auditory artistry. Bild will inspire you with expert speakers, educational experiences, a world-class brand expo, contests, and lots of inspiration to help you grow your creativity. Bild is a free event for registered attendees. https://www.bildexpo.com/

There is a wide variety of opportunities to improve your photography skills through locally based "The Photography Workshop" - headed by CCCC member Mark Bergkvist. From beginning basics of how to use your camera, to more advanced editing techniques, and many workshop outings including some fun travel opportunities make this a great resource for those who want to improve their photo ability. Here are just a few of the fall courses:

- WOW! – Out Of This World! - Stunning Star Trails! (Astro Photography)
- Capturing the Spectacular Autumn Colors of Vermont
- WOW! – Photography Boot Camp I / Camera & Exposure Basics
- WOW! - Long Exposure Photography!
- WOW! – Fantastic Fire-Spinning and MORE Surprises!
- And many more - check the website!

# And the Last Laugh goes to.....

## *Mark Bergkvist*

### *For being such a great sport and mentor!*

The Photography Workshop offers a Summer Photography Camp for kids where they learn the basics and have fun doing it! Here, camper and budding photographer, Lucy Nelson, enjoys a fun and special moment with Mark. But, it's not all about the kids; check here for upcoming workshops where you can have fun too!

*Photo credit: Photography Workshop staff member, Tina Camuso*