



Chester County Camera Club

a community of photographers

September 2021 Newsletter

Welcome

Welcome Back!



Whew! We made it through a very challenging year and a half and we're all excited to welcome everyone back as we get ready for another sensational season ahead. While we are thrilled to be planning to finally meet in person again, we don't know what obstacles might lie ahead. One thing we do know is that our club is amazing and very flexible when it comes to overcoming obstacles, and we'll do whatever it takes to ensure we have a wonderful year. We can't wait to see everyone again and welcome all our new members!

The club officers pictured above did such an extraordinary job last year, they were all unanimously re-elected in landslide victories! They are all ready with cameras in hand and looking forward to guest speakers, members' forums, outings, workshops, and whatever else comes our way.

Pictured clockwise from bottom left: Stephen Whitney, Member-at-Large; Carolyn Mead, Vice-President; Paul Stewart (Stu), Member-at-Large; Pat Rhubottom, Secretary; Ginia Apostolacus, President; and Helen Wagner, Treasurer.

Out with the Old ~~~ In with the New

The officers may have remained the same, but two of our very important committees are seeing some leadership changes this year. Anita Bower will be passing the Members' Forum baton to Navjot Hanspal. In his new role, Navjot will plan for and recruit club members for our monthly Members' Forum presentations. Additionally, Valerie Dunn will hand over her membership responsibilities to Denise Molzahn, who will coordinate all membership renewals and welcome new members into the club. We thank Anita and Valerie for all their volunteer efforts and dedication and wish Navjot and Denise all the best in their new roles!



(l to r: Anita Bower, Navjot Hanspal, Valerie Dunn, Denise Molzahn)

Getting Ready for the New Club Year



Although the club didn't have official meetings over the summer, a lot of action still took place! Many volunteers got together via zoom or in-person to plan exciting events for the upcoming year. Here, Jim Wilson, Jim Samanen, Wayne Dixon and Peter Guman, members of the workshop committee, hash out an exciting schedule of hands-on activities for members to practice what they learn.

Interested in joining a committee? Check out the [list of committees](#) and reach out to the chairperson - they would love to have your help!



Renew Yours Today!

Don't get left out in the cold - although with the heat waves this summer, that doesn't sound too bad!! Renew your membership now so you don't miss out on any of the camera club benefits that are exclusive to members only, such as competitions, mentee/mentor meetings, and select workshops. Renewing is quick and easy and can be done completely on-line. Simply click on the Meeting and Visitor Information tab from our website [homepage](#), scroll down to the bottom of the page and there's a link for the application. PayPal is accepted and voila - you're done! It will be the best \$45.00 you ever spent!

Summer Highlights:

Summer Challenge Meetup at St. Peter's Church



This special meetup organized by Stephanie Vacek and Anita Bower included an exclusive tour and a brief history of the chapel by two parishioners who spoke with extensive knowledge and shared their passion for this beautiful old church on top of the Great Valley in Malvern, PA. After enjoying the photo opportunities both inside and outside the church, the group drove over to McKenzie's Brewhouse in Malvern for an enjoyable dinner with friends in a private room. You can see a gallery of images from the Meetup [here](#), and thank you to David Balick for taking the group shot.

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, accompanied by a raging thunderstorm outside. Lots of laughter and fun as everyone marvelled at the creative interpretation of this year's challenging topics to illustrate the timely theme of 'ISolation.'





Photo credits clockwise :

Sue Hare, Carol DeGuseppi,
Bob Kelly, Carolyn Mead,
Stephanie Vacek, Sarah Staub.

Thought-provoking assignments this year challenged CCCC members to illustrate concepts such as “Keep calm and carry on”, and “This too shall pass”. Here are just a few of the imaginative interpretations to pay homage to this past year of shut-downs and social-distancing. To see all the galleries, [click here](#), then click on the little triangle Club Outings / 2020-2021 club year / Summer Challenge - and then click one more triangle to get to the ten assigned categories. Thank you to Stephanie Vacek and Anita Bower for coordinating yet another successful summer challenge, and thank you to Helen Wagner for generously hosting the screening party at her home.

Second Mountain Sunflowers

This outing may win the award for being rescheduled the most times.... But it finally happened! Beautiful afternoon sun created a warm glow on this amazing display of sunflowers. Check out the [gallery](#) to see some wonderful images!



Upcoming Events:

Monthly Meeting - September 8



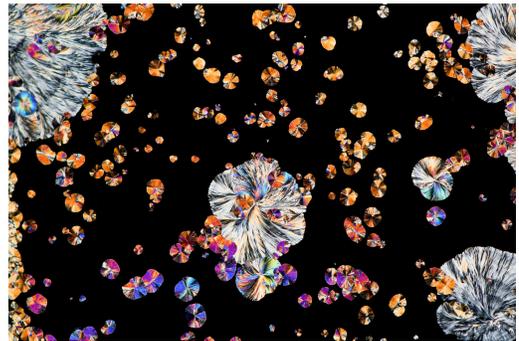
Our guest speaker this month is Laurie Beck Peterson who will speak to us about Nineteenth Century Historic Photo Processing, and will share pieces from two bodies of work, *Visible Obscured* and *We All Fall Down*.

She started her career in commercial photography in Rochester, NY, but then moved to Philadelphia where she remains and now considers herself a native. You can find out more about Laurie on her [website](#).

Members' Forum - September 8

Don't let the title of this month's members' forum intimidate you! Navjot Hanspal will share how to get creative images like the one shown here from readily available household objects in his presentation on "*Physics, Photons, and Phun*"

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.



Monthly Critique Group - September 12

It's a new season and maybe it's the season for you to become involved with the Monthly Critique Group! Here's a chance for you to 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.

Workshop - September 18

So... What Did You See?



Our first workshop of the season will drive home the point that everyone sees things differently. Led by Wayne Dixon, this will be an interactive session that will strive to inspire creativity among us. Participants will meet up at the Old Courthouse in West Chester to shoot whatever they want, then walk to the Public Library where Wayne will lead a discussion on artistic vision of some of the images just taken. What a great way to start off the new year!! Participation is limited, so sign up early to reserve your spot by emailing workshop coordinator [Jim Wilson](#).

September Outings:

Chester County Balloon Festival (September 11)

The first outing of the new season is one that we've all been anxiously awaiting for quite some time. The Chester County Balloon Festival was postponed a few times, but it's finally ready for lift-off! Join camera club members on day two of this weekend-long event. We'll be there for the late afternoon launch, and the Balloon Glow event, which promises to be spectacular! You can find more information on their [website](#).



Sleepy Hollow MX Motocross (September 19)

If you like action photography, you'll love this outing! Motocross is about as action-packed as it comes. Here's a great opportunity to practice stop-action or motion photography! If you've never done this before, it's a great opportunity to get pointers from some of our more experienced action photographers!

More Upcoming Outings:

- [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.

- Wed, Sept 8 [Members' Forum](#) and [Monthly Meeting](#)
- Sat, Sept 11 Club Outing - [Chester County Balloon Festival](#)
- Sun, Sept 12 [Monthly Critique Group](#)
- Wed, Sept 15 [Mentor zoom meeting](#)
- Sat, Sept 18 [Workshop](#) - So... What Did You See?
- Sun, Sept 19 Club Outing - [Sleepy Hollow MX Motocross](#)
- Wed, Sept 22 [Monthly Competition](#)
- Sat, Oct 2 [Club Outing](#) - Race of the Gentlemen
- Sun, Oct 10 [Monthly Critique Group](#)
- Wed, Oct 13 [Members' Forum](#) and [Monthly Meeting](#)
- Sun, Oct 17 [Club Outing](#) - Hawk Mountain
- Tues, Oct 19 [Special Presentation](#) via Zoom
- Wed, Oct 20 [Mentor zoom meeting](#)
- Wed, Oct 27 [Monthly Competition](#)
- Sat, Oct 30 [Club Outing](#) - Sultana Downrigging

Mentor Group

Mentor/Mentee Coordinators Buzz Mossholder and Mike Kiba shared a poll with mentees to create a meaningful program to promote learning for less-experienced members. 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 via Zoom that will focus on post processing.

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

Wayne Dixon has the spotlight shining on him this month!

Volunteer Spotlight

Wayne has been a member of Chester County Camera Club for over 10 years and looks forward to each new season and what it brings. If you've participated in any of our workshops, Wayne is one of the folks you can thank for your experience. He started the workshop program and continues as an active committee member.



While Wayne has been interested in photography since high school, he really didn't get "into" Photography until digital cameras came on the scene. He just loves how he's able to see his images in real time and since there is no film, has the freedom to experiment. He tends to gravitate mostly to landscape photography, and here's his reason why, *"There is something so therapeutic when you can connect to nature. I love being able to capture what I see thru the lens, process it with my mind's eye and transform that into a still image."*

Inspiration, growth, and learning are some of the reasons Wayne has been a member for so long. He feels the workshops, outings, and even the competitions are designed to foster development. There is always someone from the club willing to take the time to help him and answer his questions. If he has a camera-specific question (he shoots Nikon) someone is there to help; if he has a print question, yes, the club has just a person to help with that too.

Wayne currently works as a tech for Delaware County. He's also photographed Real Estate, Events, Portraits, and occasional Weddings. When he's not working at his real job, he volunteers as a photographer / videographer on his local church media team and serves on the church Art group committee.

In addition to photography, one of Wayne's hobbies is videography. He shot the video on two documentaries and won his first Telly Award as a camera operator. Congratulations, Wayne!! This year he started shooting Aerial Photography with a drone. He considers his other hobbies as silly ones: he collects Diecast toy cars (HotWheels, Matchbox, ect) for Diecast photography. He would buy HotWheels for his sons when they were young; now he photographs them and plays with his grandkids. So if you have toy cars or trucks you want to get rid of ...just let him know!

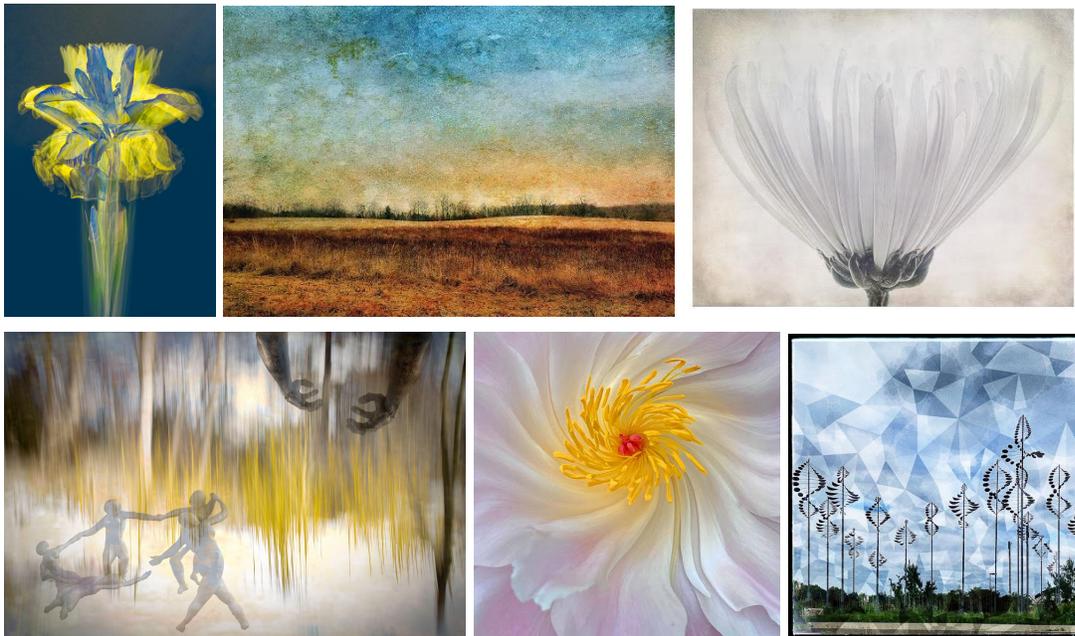
In closing, Wayne wanted to emphasize that he has *'experienced tremendous growth by being a member of this club. What is unique about CCCC is the club members and the commitment each person has to their growth as a photographer, this is the reason I keep coming back year after year.'*

Welcome to our Newest Member!

We had one new member join us over the summer. Welcome **Tom Bernard!!** We're looking forward to getting to know you and your photographic style in the coming months. We hope you enjoy the club and all it has to offer.

Members in the News

Four CCCC members, **Robert Becker, Anita Bower, Carol DeGuisseppi, and Fiona Keyes** have had images selected for display in the Pennsylvania Center for Photography's (PCP) 6th Annual Transformations Exhibit at the New Hope Arts Center. This exhibit features images that showcase the photographer's creativity and imagination. The exhibit runs through September 6, or you can view it online [here](#).



(Images l to r: Top: R. Becker, A. Bower, A. Bower, Bottom: C. DeGuisseppi, F. Keyes, F. Keyes)

Mark Bergkvist, Director of The Photography Workshop is excited to announce the October opening of a new Education Center and Studio at 200 E. Rosedale Avenue in West Chester, PA. This brand-new state-of-the-art photography facility will feature incredible natural light, high ceilings, spacious classroom and studio space, a kitchenette, and offices. The Photography Workshop has announced their list of 2021 fall classes and workshops. Check them out at photography-workshop.net



Anita Bower recently exhibited her photography at North Star Orchard in Cochranville, PA. Downstairs, visitors can shop for an amazing array of fresh fruits and vegetables and other treats. Upstairs, an art gallery with local art in rotation is featured in this fantastic barn setting - notice the star-shaped window! Anita was successful in selling multiple images, and she graciously donated the proceeds to the Chester County Food Bank.

Learning Opportunities

We usually feature online learning opportunities in this section, but this month, we are turning to the club's best resource for learning - that is from each other!

The opening group shot of the CCCC 2021-2022 officers was taken by Jim Wilson, assisted by his wife Betsy. Jim has been studying lighting, and needed some new models to practice with (he was getting tired of photographing the old battleaxe!) so they reached out to the officers and invited them to a photoshoot at their home. The models were asked to bring a few different outfits, and the Wilsons provided dressing rooms and refreshments.



We pride ourselves on being a club of collaboration, so don't hesitate to reach out to other members, whether it's to get together and go shoot, learn about your camera or new techniques, or to help advance your skills in general. Chances are, you'll have a heck of a good time doing it, as did the Wilsons.

Opportunities to Show Your Work

We are thrilled to announce that we will have another show at the Henry Gallery of Penn State Great Valley. It's just in the planning stages, but it's coming, most likely in the spring of 2022. That's all the information we have now, but we'll keep you up to date as more becomes available.



Competition Guidelines update

As a follow up to the June Member's Forum on "Art in Photography - in Search of Impact", a small group of dedicated members made recommendations to enhance the competition judging guidelines to emphasize the importance of impact in our images. The new guidelines for judges, approved by the Steering Committee, can be [read here](#). Thank you to Jim Samanen, Ted Goldman and Navjot Hanspal for all their work on this!

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

And the last laugh goes to... . Svenne Juul

For his fun and playful capture of the many moods of David Balick who was definitely NOT paying attention in church!



Image from a Summer Challenge outing to St. Peter's Church

