Chester County Camera Club

a community of photographers

March 2025 Newsletter

It's About Time!!

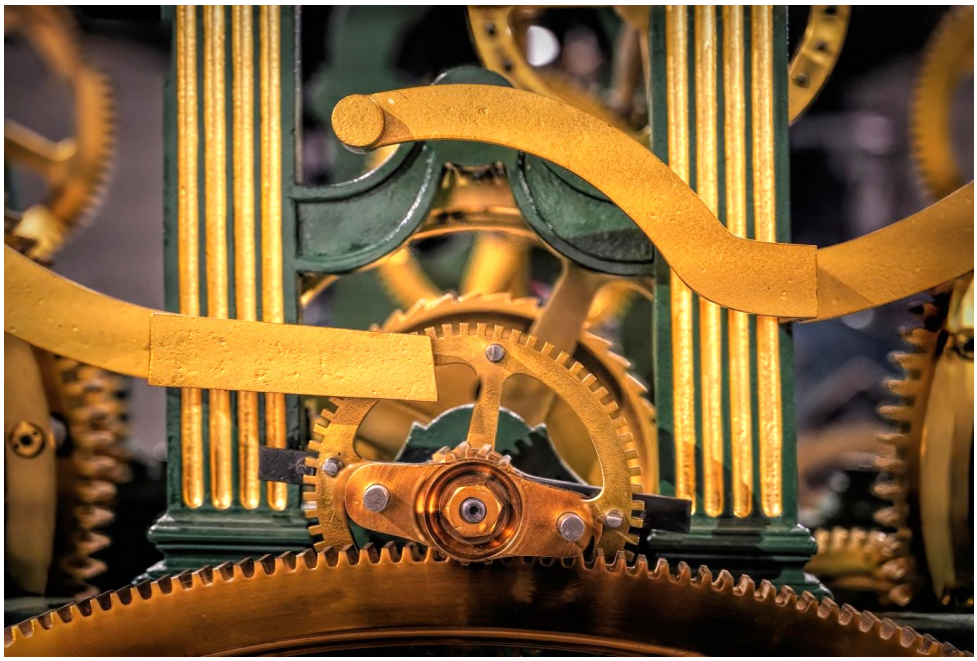


Image by Doug Cinoman

It's about time; it's about space; it's about two men in the strangest place!!

Depending on your age, you may find yourself remembering the lyrics of this short-lived 1960's TV show about astronauts meeting cavemen.

Well, it's now 2025, and the outing to the National Watch and Clock Museum was anything but strange! It was intriguing and amazing to see so many timepieces from throughout the years that help us keep track of time!

Speaking of time - it's about time for Spring! That means getting outside more and photographing nature in all its glory. Spring is a time for re-birth; a time for longer days, baby critters, and new buds popping out on our favorite plants and flowers. And let's not forget, it's time for the return of in-person club meetings.

It's also the perfect time to get more involved in the CCCC outings, activities, and fun! It's about time to meet and get to know our many newer members. Hint: The upcoming bus trip in May is a perfect opportunity to do just that. Don't waste any time - sign up today!

February Happenings:

Club Outing - National Watch and Clock Museum

CCCC Photographers travelled through time as they experienced the sights and ticking sounds at the National Watch and Clock Museum in the quaint town of Columbia. The Museum features the largest collection of timepieces in North America – more than 13,000 from around the world. As always, the creativity of our club members is apparent when looking at some of the images from this fun outing. Check out the gallery.

L to R: Sue Hare, Anita Bower, Howard Sundwall

Critique Groups

The in-person critique group was graciously hosted by Sue and Joe Hare. In the spirit of photo creativity, Sue added some levity to the group shot. “Since Sarah Staub wears hats all the time, we all joined her and wore a hat” - thanks for the fun image Sue! 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.

Members Forum: "Everybody Edit"

No rules! CCCC members had the opportunity to show off their editing creativity by editing the same image with their own artistic twist. Moderator Sue Hare asked each participant to share their thought process in creating their edit choices, and a lively discussion followed. The results were varied and fun, as you can see in this sampling of edits by Anita Bower, Sue Hare, Robert Friedman and Jerry Snyder. Watch the video to see more!

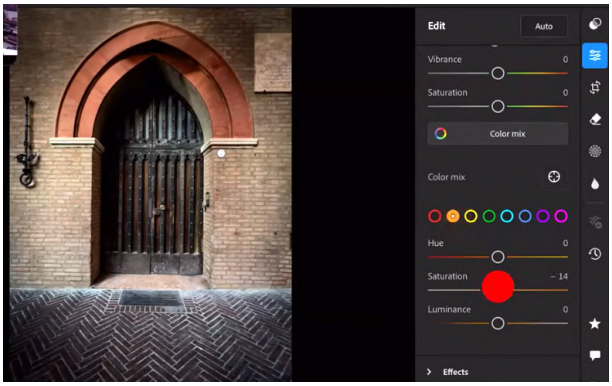
Monthly Meeting:

Cheryl Opperman - Exploring Nature Through Photography

Award winning Cheryl Opperman shared her wildlife and landscape images from around the world, along with many tips on gear, tools, and technique that help increase one's chance of creating the perfect shot! She has a wonderful ability to get to the heart of what makes a good photo, while offering some very practical ways to help aspiring image-makers. Watch the video here.

Post Processing Group

Buzz Mossholder demonstrated the new remove tools in photoshop, as well as the power of dodging and burning to enhance your images. The image on the left includes a distracting post on the bottom left, and an unattractive black post on the right. He demonstrated step-by-step how to clean up the image, as shown in the enhanced image on the right. The zoom recording is available by clicking here.



Mentor/Mentee Meeting

Jennifer Powell delved into the power of Lightroom Mobile - along with demonstrations of how to use it, and emphasized the benefits of the convenience of being able to edit photos when and where you want. She also covered some more about the power of Lightroom sliders to enhance your images. The video of the zoom session is available here.

Club Outing - Baldwin Book Barn

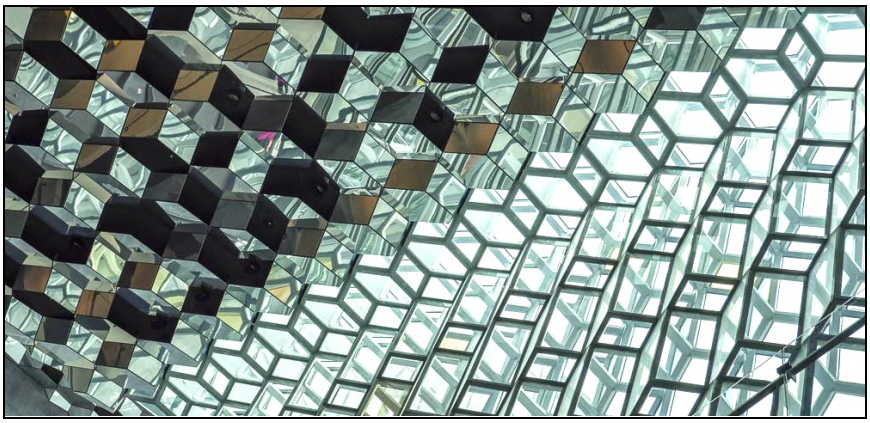
A few people commented that it was like being in a Harry Potter novel... the creaky floor boards, drafty windows and nooks and crannies were filled to the ceilings with fascinating books on all five floors of the Baldwin Book Barn in Chester County. Check out the gallery of creative images

Clockwise:
Doug Cinoman, Pat Rhubottom, Valerie Dunn, Marguerite Hamilton, Ted Chen.

February Competition - "Symmetry and Patterns"

The challenge was to seek out symmetry and patterns in the world around you; to use compositional techniques to create visually captivating images that highlight repetition and balances and compositions. Guest judge, Buddy Eleazer, shared positive observations and comments that provided a learning experience.

First Place ribbons in the assigned category were awarded to: Atala Toy in the monochrome category for "Chicago Window Washing", and to Sally Loken in the color category for "Harpa Concert Hall Reykjavik Iceland".



In the open categories, Wendy Summer was awarded first place in both color and monochrome for her images titled: "Feeling Good" and "Artist at Work"

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

Important Announcements:

We're back to our normal in-person meeting schedule! While we will continue to offer the convenience of Zoom meetings (in some cases) we hope to see you all soon. Mentor Meetings will return to in-person only.

Swap Shop at the April Meeting

Start that spring cleaning! Make room in your closets and drawers! Get rid of photography "stuff" you no longer use! Books, magazines, camera cases, lens bags, filters - anything goes! We'll set up a swap table where members can browse, take what they need, and share resources—all at no cost. Let's come together to support each other in growing our photography skills and enjoyment! And remember, for those who may want to sell more expensive items, there is a forum on our website for that.

Bus Trip to Annapolis on May 17

Online registration is open and spots are filling up! Don't miss out on a fun-filled day with other club members as we make our way south and embark on "A *Tale of Two Harbors*" that will include Annapolis and Baltimore! Guests are welcome. Get all the information here.

Upcoming Events:

Monthly Critique Groups - March 2

This is the perfect time to join this group of enthusiastic and helpful photographers where you can benefit from constructive input and inspiration from other club members. They meet both in person and via zoom, typically on the first Sunday of the month. Come on out and mix and mingle with folks who share your passion! If this sounds like something of interest to you, simply contact Jim Samanen to get you all set up!

Members' Forum - March 12

Learn New Post-Processing Techniques with Betsy Wilson

Club member Betsy Wilson will share some ways to expand your horizons and get creative with your post-processing skills. She'll explain The Adamski and Pep Ventosa techniques, so if you've ever wondered how to get these unique images, be sure to join us.

Monthly Meeting - March 12

Ted and Nune Studio
Specifics for a long-term project ~ Creating an exhibition from start to finish

Ted and Nune are a photographic team whose work is inspired by the man-made world. Seeking out the spiritual dimension in monumental human constructions, they journey to make studies of architecture and industry; their collaboration has produced several internationally recognized long-term projects. You can learn more about them here.

Post Processing Group - March 16 - Zoom Only

A great learning experience for those who want to advance their post processing skills. Group leader Buzz Mossholder answers questions throughout the demonstration, and participants are encouraged to jump in with their own suggestions. Contact Buzz Mossholder for details.

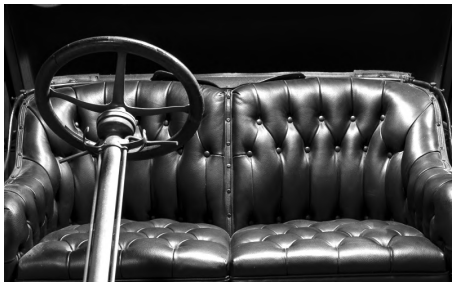
Mentor/Mentee Meeting - March 19

Mentor Meetings will return to in-person only, with your camera in-hand! This month's topic will be "Know Your Gear." We'll address specific questions from mentees compiled from a list that will be sent out in advance, and also have an exercise in back-button focus and camera settings. These meetings are open to all members; email notifications are sent before each meeting.

Upcoming Outings:

Brandywine Museum of Art
Sunday, March 2

We will be taking advantage of free admission to the Brandywine Museum of Art,on the first Sunday of the month, to view an exhibition of work by the celebrated photographers Robert Frank and Todd Webb. At the same time, there will be a special exhibition of Andrew Wyeth that we can take in while we are there. A double header of wonderful art!



Antique Auto Museum in Hershey
Saturday, March 29

Beep Beep! Lots of photo ops of one of the best collections of antique cars, buses and motorcycles in America. It's a trip down "memory lane" as iconic settings reveal vehicles from generations of American motoring, like in this image by Jim Wilson.

New Members

Welcome to our newest member, **Joyce Storch.** We're happy to have you as part of our photo community and look forward to getting to know you. We hope you enjoy being a part of CCCC and all the opportunities and benefits we offer.

Members in the News

Congratulations to Ginia Apostolacus, Carol DeGuiseppi, Laura Ducceschi, Valerie Dunn, Debbie Laverell, Nima Marsh, Rob Porter, and Betsy Wilson! They all had images accepted into the juried photo exhibit at the Philadelphia Flower Show, which runs from March 1-9. If you go to the show, be sure to stop by the photography exhibit and view their artwork.

Betsy Wilson Presenting at Delaware Photographic Society - all are invited!

Betsy Wison is taking her show on the road! She's been invited to share her presentation "*Still Life - Beyond Fruit Bowls and Flowers*" with the Delaware Photographic Society and everyone is invited! Save the date - Monday March 24 at Cokesbury Village in Hockessin. Click here for a link to a pdf of the flyer with more info.

Learning Opportunities

This year's Photoshop Creativity Virtual Summit will focus on the creative side of Photoshop. For example, talking about fine art, conceptual compositing, image manipulation, fantasy images, textures, painterly effects and so on - in addition to classes on creativity, inspiration and sharing your work. It's going to be 4 days (March 23-26) packed with amazing classes taught by artists and creatives.

It's FREE to join in and learn! Get all the details and register here!

Member Spotlight

The spotlight is shining on Doug Cinoman this month!

Doug joined us in 2022, so has been an active and participating member for about three years now. While he hasn't held any official volunteer roles he shared that he " *would certainly be interested in doing so in the future. I'd like to hopefully give back something to the club; I've learned a tremendous amount since I've been a member.*"

He's been involved with photography at various levels of intensity for about fifty years. He took a photography class in high school (back when high schools used to offer that sort of thing) and loved it. From learning about composition and shooting parameters to developing film and printing, he was hooked. But then, as has happened to so many of us, life intervened and his ability to devote serious time to photography waxed and waned over the years until he retired and could immerse himself in it.

His favorite genre of photography, or the one he's most comfortable with is landscape, although he is finding himself increasingly drawn to street photography. He admits that takes a certain kind of courage that he's slowly warming up to!

Doug originally trained as a polymer chemist and worked in the chemical industry in R&D, sales and marketing for many years before going to law school. After that, he worked mainly managing intellectual property portfolios, also in the chemical industry.

In addition to photography, travel and reading have always been activities that he enjoys very much. He's a dog lover and has a new puppy who takes up almost all of his remaining free time, but said, "*what you give you get back a thousand-fold!*"

Some parting words from Doug, " *Joining this club was the best thing that I ever did to improve my photography. The artistry and technical skill of the members are incredible and have pushed me to experiment and try new things. A sincere thank you to all of the members and officers of the club. I've benefited tremendously from you sharing your work, from the excellent photo outings that you arrange, and from the excellent speakers that you recruit.*"

Future Spotlight Nominations?

Do you know of a member that should be highlighted in a future newsletter? Would you like to share your own photographic story? If you have info you would like considered in an upcoming monthly newsletter, please contact newsletter editors Carol DeGuiseppi or Betsy Wilson.

Dates to Remember - Mark your Calendar!

Sun, Mar 2	Critique Groups
Sun, Mar 2	Club Outing - Brandywine Museum of Art
Wed, Mar 12	Members' Forum and Guest Speaker
Sun, Mar 16	Post Processing Group
Wed, Mar 19	Mentor/Mentee Meeting
Wed, Mar 26	Monthly Competition
Sat, Mar 29	Club Outing - Antique Auto Museum in Hershey
Thu, Apr 17	Club Outing - Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve and New Hope
Sat, Apr 26	Club Outing - Valley Forge Photo Tour
Sat, May 17	Bus Trip to Annapolis and Baltimore - Sign up Now!!

Website Wisdom:

Don't miss any upcoming opportunities to further your photography skills! Be sure to check the website schedule regularly. Did you know that you can change the way you view upcoming events? At the top right of the Schedule page, you will see this group of buttons. The default view is "Month" which looks like a typical calendar. You can also click "Agenda" which provides a paragraph description of all upcoming events along with their dates.

Competition Tips:

"Creative Reflections" is the assigned theme this month. Here's your chance to experiment with reflections in photography. Whether it's capturing reflections in water, glass, or other surfaces, explore how reflections can add depth and interest to your compositions If you need some inspiration just click here!

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.

A Final Thought…

Have you ever seen a Zebra's Butt this close? Have you ever been this close to a zebra? Word is they can get a little testy and kick! Maybe kick your butt!

We sure hope Debbie Laverell was using a super telephoto lens when she captured this amazing image aptly called *Zebra Butt*. She was awarded a third place ribbon in the recent Symmetry and Patterns competition.

…the End.