Chester County Camera Club

a community of photographers

October 2021 Newsletter

Welcome

What Did You See?

The participants of the first workshop of the year saw an ordinary Saturday morning turn into an amazing learning experience. This fun and interactive workshop, led by Wayne Dixon, was a great way to kick off the new season! After a walk-about town to create some images, Wayne led an insightful discussion about a new and wonderful way of "seeing" and capturing our feelings in a photograph.

"Lots of "WOWs" during our get together in the Library when Wayne was showing us his insights to everyone's photos. If the masks were off we would have seen a lot of jaws dropping" -Maureen Mulloney

"Wayne Dixon provided a fascinating introduction to examining how we each "see" the world and communicate this through our photos. He guided us by using his own way of seeing a photograph - which encompasses composition, shape, color, emotional content and point of view." -Corinne Masur

"His pre-shoot exercise fortified and encouraged me to go beyond just taking a photo, but to try to "shoot from inside me" and have the photo convey a story. It was a very enlightening & meaningful experience for me, since I do not look to "convey a story" in my photos. Now, I will do so!" - Lynn Greenfield

"I learned so much from Wayne...I think that our photographer brains are set to see color, shape, texture, and so much more, without thinking about it so much. But Perhaps I do need to take more time to see the subtle curves and shadows, etc. BEFORE taking the photo...to sketch it out as Wayne suggested." - Linda Litwin

September Highlights: *First meeting back in-person!*

Members Forum:
Navjot Hanspal on Physics, Photons and Phun!

Navjot wowed the audience with amazing examples and instruction on how to get creative images from readily available and inexpensive objects.

He shared many inspirational images that he has created using items found in his kitchen, and also demonstrated the crystal formations on a lightbox. What a great way to kick off the first Members Forum!

Monthly Presentation:
Laurie Beck Peterson

A perfect compliment to the Member's Forum, this fascinating presentation also focused on alternative photo processing. Laurie Beck Peterson works in 19th Century historic processes, and she presented her contemporary alternative photo process pieces from two bodies of work - Gum bichromate works from *Visible Obscured*, and cyanotypes works on paper and tree stumps from *We All Fall Down*. The audience was mesmerized by her Chlorophyll Leaf image shown above *Family Collaboration* which she created to celebrate *Three Episodes for Timpani* composed by her father, written for and performed by her brother. You can find out more about Laurie on her website.

Chester County Balloon Festival

L to R: Richard Maynard, Evelyn Connor, Duane Erdmann

Thanks to Dean Grantham who led this fun outing! Photographers used some CCCC clout to gain special access to get up close to the balloons, enabling them to get some very creative images of the behind-the-scenes preparation, and images from inside the balloons! Check out the gallery of many colorful and fun images!

Monthly Critique Group

Two sessions of the Print Critique Group met this month - one group met virtually via Zoom, and the other group met in person at the home of Betsy and Jim Wilson. This monthly meeting provides an opportunity to share and comment on each other's images in a friendly atmosphere. To participate in a future session, contact Jim Samanen.

Mentor Zoom Meeting

Buzz Mossholder introduced the first of a series of sessions on Lightroom and Photoshop for beginners. This lesson focused on an Introduction to Lightroom, Importing Photos and Collections. These sessions are a members-only benefit. The lesson was recorded and can be viewed by members at any time by clicking here.
The Mentor Program also includes small group outings to allow for more one-on-one assistance with a mentor who has the same camera brand. If you're interested in joining as a mentee, contact Mike Keba.

Sleepy Hollow MotoCross

Lots of action and a great place to practice motion photography at the fast-paced and dirt-flying MotoCross. The gallery of images shows many cool shots such as flying motorcycles frozen in mid-air using a fast shutter speed, and some wonderful images using slower shutter speeds and techniques such as panning, as in this exciting image by John Dolph. Check out the gallery for more action images!

September Competition - "Good Deed"

Guest Judge Kitty Kono Cobb exhibited poise and patience as we worked out the technical difficulties of conducting a meeting in front of a live audience and a zoom audience simultaneously. Our first competition of the year challenged our members with a unique assigned category of "Good Deeds" which yielded fewer entries than usual. But they made up for it in the open categories with many wonderful images.

And yay! The print portion of the competition is back! Thank you Anita Bower and Jim Samanen for coordinating the prints, and Svenne Juul and Sheila Fredericks for managing the digital images.

To view all images from the competition on our website, go to Competitions / Competition Results. Then, select one of the eight competition categories and click on the little box that says "Display all images" , and enjoy viewing many outstanding images by our talented members!

Upcoming Events:

Monthly Critique Group - October 3

If you like the idea of sharing your photos and receiving some constructive feedback from your peers, this may be just the thing. 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.

Members' Forum - October 13

It's a Doubleheader this month! Two amazing photographers for the price of one! ***Jim and Betsy Wilson*** will share tips and techniques to create images for two upcoming competitions. Betsy will share how she creates shoot-through images, the theme for February, and Jim will discuss Blur and Flash, May's competition theme.

Monthly Meeting - October 13

Jim Graham is our guest speaker this month and will speak about *Photographing the Equestrian Life*. He is an editorial and commercial photographer, the recipient of several prestigious awards, and has a list of impressive clients. He has taken photos for The Hunt magazine since 1994 and will speak to us about his experience photographing Mr. Cheshire's Foxhounds and his recently published book.

Special Presentation - October 19

Be sure to join us for the special zoom presentation by **Ossian Lindholm,** a renowned nature photographer from Argentina. He will discuss and demonstrate how to apply Ansel Adams' Classic Zone System to digital photography. If you're an Ansel Adams fan, you won't want to miss this! You can view some of Ossian's spectacular images here.

October Outings:

Rough & Tumble: A Time of Harvest - October 9

Old farm machinery has a nostalgic feel to it and can bring back memories for many of us. This festival in Kinzers, PA has everything from steam trains, gas engines, steam traction engines, machinery demonstrations, antique cars and trucks and more. Take a step back in time and join your fellow camera club members on this fun outing!

Hawk Mountain - October 17

If you're interested in the fall migration of hawks, falcons, and eagles, here's your chance to observe and photograph this annual event at Hawk Mountain, which is part of the Blue Mountain Ridge along the Appalachian Trail. As you can see by the image on the left, the terrain can be challenging and best suited for hikers; however, there are some spots that are more easily accessible.

Sultana Downrigging – October 30

Tall ships, wooden boats, music, fireworks, and more! This outing has something for everyone! While this weekend-long event is one of the largest tall ship festivals on the east coast, our club outing will be on Saturday. You can get detailed information on the festival website.

More Upcoming Outings:

Conowingo Dam - Sunday, November 14

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.

- Sun, Oct 3 — Monthly Critique Group
- Sat, Oct 9 — Club Outing - Rough & Tumble
- 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
- Wed, Nov 3 — Mentor Meeting via Zoom
- Sun, Nov 7 — Monthly Critique Group
- Wed, Nov 10 — Members' Forum and Monthly Meeting
- Wed, Nov 17 — Monthly Competition
- Sun, Nov 14 — Club Outing - Conowingo Dam

Denise Molzahn, our new Membership Coordinator, is in the spotlight this month!

Volunteer Spotlight

Denise joined CCCC in January of 2017 and recently took on her first volunteer role as Membership Coordinator. She's excited to become more involved in the club and to get to know more of the members.

She's loved photography since she had her first Brownie as a kid. Then she took a dark room course in high school and thought that was pretty cool, but it wasn't until 2011 when her mother presented her with her first serious DSLR (a Canon 60D) as a gift that has become her passion.

Denise favors landscapes, nature, and wildlife photography - abandoned places too! She'll shoot just about anything for fun, except portraits or flash photography; she doesn't like that stuff. She just got her first mirrorless - a Canon R6 - that has eye detection focus and she says it's a game changer for shooting wildlife, especially fast moving birds.

When asked how she's grown or been inspired by CCCC members, here's what Denise had to say, "*What I love most about the club is how open and helpful all the members are. Everyone is so willing to share information and techniques so that others can learn. There are also so many talented and dedicated volunteers in the club who help bring a lot of opportunities to get together on outings, learn new things, etc.*"

In her life outside of photography Denise is an Environmental Manager with the corporate environmental team for NAES Corporation, a company that operates power plants in the US, the UK, and Mexico. She is extremely busy at work, which includes some traveling, and is looking forward to retiring in the not too distant future.

In the past, Denise was a Girl Scout Leader for 13 years and held other volunteer positions with the Girl Scouts of Freedom Valley. She's done some mission trips with her church and has also chaperoned some youth activities. She has several other hobbies besides photography (she says perhaps TOO many), including reading, vegetable gardening, swimming, walks and hikes with her black labrador (Libby), SCUBA diving, RV-ing and traveling every chance she gets!

One of Denise's goals (besides retiring) is to start entering our monthly competitions on a regular basis. She had what she considers beginner's luck last year, and hopes to expand on that. She feels she learns so much from the comments of the judges - plus, she wants to push herself and work to shoot images with impact. Good luck, Denise - we're sure you'll enjoy your retirement and have much success in your photography!

Welcome to our Newest Members!

We're happy to welcome our newest members, **Jake Bittner, Kathy Keifer, Gerald Keifer, and Tom Lovatt**! We're looking forward to getting to know all of you and your photographic styles in the coming months. We hope you enjoy the club and all it has to offer.

Members in the News

Anita Bower's image, *James House*, will be included in the Oxford Arts Alliance's (OxAA) 7th Annual National Juried Exhibition. The juror, Charles Goolsby, Professor of Art at Emory & Henry College curated a collection of 30 artworks from 250 entries for this exhibit. The opening reception is Friday, October 15, from 5-8 pm and will run through November 12. You can find more information, including hours and location here.

Wayne Dixon and **Peter Guman** did a presentation for M.O.B.B.Y Mentoring our Black and Brown Youth at the Melton Center in West Chester. They talked about how they both got interested in photography and worked together and became friends through the CCCC. The workshop was about using your cell phone as a 'side hustle', earning extra money taking headshots for people, such as for LinkedIn.

Opportunities to Show Your Work

Here's your chance to show off your images of Valley Forge! And maybe win some prizes! The Valley Forge Park Alliance 2021 Fall Photo Contest is open for submissions through the month of October. Photos must be recent, so get out there and capture some fall color!

Learning Opportunities

Virtual Photoshop Summit coming to a computer near you Oct 4 - 8

This is the third year for this amazing summit that includes five days of practical training from some of the leading photoshop experts. And best of all - no travel involved and it is completely **FREE**!!

Competition Tips

With one successful competition in the books, we want to remind you once again of the changes made to our competition guidelines. In case you missed it, they can be read here. The theme for October's competition is "Close Two Shot" and is just what it sounds like - a close up of two people in the frame. Click here for more information and some examples.

Newsletter request

Have you won an award for your photography? Perhaps been published in a magazine or exhibited at a gallery? Do you know of any upcoming photo exhibits or learning opportunities that would be of interest to our members? Let us know! Simply contact newsletter editors Carol DeGuiseppi or Betsy Wilson.

And the last laugh goes to… .

Richard Maynard

For this fun and fiery dragon image he captured at the

CCCC Outing to the

Chester County Balloon Festival

"Caption This"