



Chester County Camera Club

a community of photographers

January 2021 Newsletter

Bring on the New Year!

It may be the understatement of the year that we all want 2020 to end and are ready to welcome 2021 with open arms. While the past year has been tumultuous and unprecedented in so many ways, the new year brings renewed hope and the anticipation of being able to eventually meet in person again and maybe even share a few hugs!

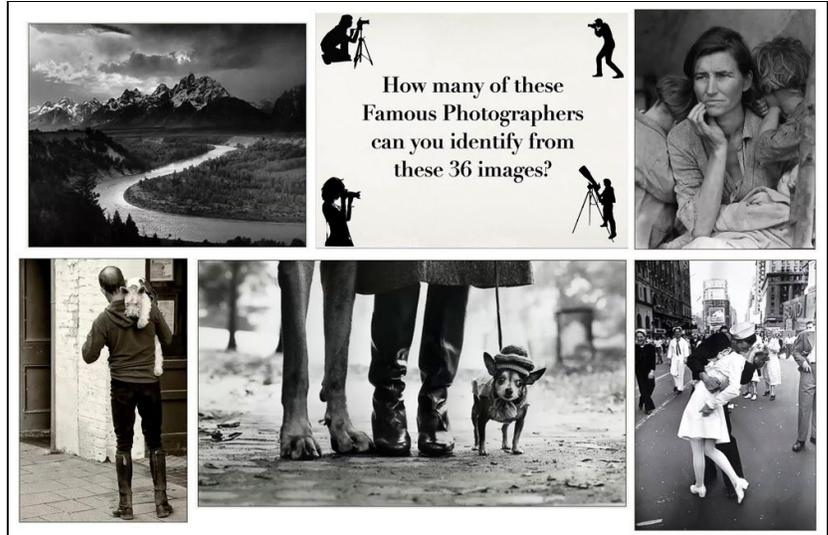
Thanks to the flexibility of our amazing committee chairs, members and our extremely creative party planners, we had a successful first half of our club year that ended with the best Zoom party in town!



Just look at these smiling, happy faces holding up their fingers to show how naughty they were last year during one of the fun and interactive games. These photos are a testament to the fun and camaraderie that runs throughout our club. Let's all welcome 2021 and look forward to an end of the year Awards and Recognition Event like no other and hopefully **IN PERSON!!**

Holiday Party!

CCCC Members donned their ugly sweaters and grabbed their favorite drink to have some fun with friends. Thanks to the talented party-planning committee, we enjoyed a few games, including “Guilty” (admit your photo bad habits!) and “Photo Roulette” (guess the famous photographers - well maybe a few weren’t as famous as others!)



Then the winners of the annual Holiday/Seasonal Photo Contest were announced. As voted on by the members, the winners were: (above left to right) Third Place - “Christmas Baubles” by Nima Marsh, Second Place - “Christmas by the Pond” by Joe Hare, and First Place - “Valley Forge Fog” by Betsy Wilson. Congratulations to the winners, and a huge thank you to the party committee of Pat Rhubottom, Carolyn Mead, Connie Snyder, and Ginia Apostolacus, shown here from last year’s party.



It was a great zoom celebration for all.

Let’s toast to our love of photography and to our CCCC friends.

Cheers!

December Highlights:

Members' Forum

Dress for Cold Winter Photography by Bob Friedman



The December 2020 Member's Forum presentation was by Bob Friedman as he shared his advice on how to plan for and dress for cold weather photography, as demonstrated in these images taken by Ginia Apostolacus. He showed some inspiring images that he took in cold weather conditions on Mt. Kilimanjaro and at Yellowstone. A short video demonstrated his layers of apparel (no cotton!!!) and his presentation outlined plenty of tips and recommended types and brands of clothing. Members had many questions about what to buy and where to get it, and Bob has graciously followed up with [more information and links](#) to help everyone know where to get what they need to get out and take those spectacular winter images!

Mentor Meeting

Svenne Juul on Dark Sky photography followed by an image critique



Introduction to Wide-field Digital Dark Skies Photography



CCCC photographers got the basics and some tips on capturing the night sky from Svenne. Perfect timing to brush up these skills as Svenne is planning a night-time club outing so we can practice what we have learned. And, the assigned competition category for January is "Stars in the Sky." After Svenne's presentation, the mentees had the opportunity to have some of their images critiqued by Mentors - a great learning experience!



Print Critique Group

“I learn things at every one of these meetings that help me improve my photography. The group is always very supportive and everyone shares constructive suggestions” – Stan Saft

The above image was taken by CCCC member Stanley Saft from an autumn trip to the Hudson Valley. He shared an earlier version at the November Print Critique group and received positive feedback along with a few suggestions for changes. He incorporated those changes and shared the edited above image at the December meeting. Well done Stan! Members are welcome to join these fun and instructive sessions - [more info here](#).

Club Outings: *“Lately it has felt like the governor had somebody following me. Hopefully January will get a little better.”*

This comment by Outings coordinator Svenne Juul sums up the recent outings schedule challenges, including a last-minute cancellation to the Boyertown Auto Museum when the state imposed stricter travel restrictions. But, we were still able to get a good group to Hopewell for some great images!

Hopewell Furnace Village



Svenne took this group shot of CCCC members happy to be photographing together outdoors at beautiful

Hopewell Furnace Village. Anita Bower focused on her current project of finding shapes and textures in buildings. To see many fascinating images created on this outing, go to the [gallery on the CCCC website](#).

Upcoming Events:

Members' Forum - January 6



Seeing Double!! - Join us as two of our members, Connie Snyder and Ginia Apostolacus, share how to create double exposures like the ones above, both in your camera and in Photoshop. Sounds like double fun!

PhotoPills Workshop- January 9

Called the Swiss Army Knife of photography applications, PhotoPills includes a planner that calculates the exact time of the sun, moon, milky way and more at any future time and location. Join us for this fun and interactive Zoom workshop as Lehigh Valley Photography Club President, and new CCCC member, Bob Becker, explains the workings of the PhotoPills app, just in time for the Night Sky Outing (see below).



Monthly Meeting - January 13

Down the Rabbit Hole - An Adventure in the Universe at our Feet
with guest speaker, **Don Komarechka**

Don is a professional photographer from Canada and is truly one of the macro masters! He is a marvel at mixing science and art to create amazing images that examine the tiny world around us and that may not always be visible with the naked eye! If you want to read about and see some of Don's photos before his presentation, here's a link to his [website](#).



Mentor Meeting - January 20

Macro Photography with Carol DeGuseppi



Just in case you didn't get enough of macro photography at our monthly meeting, the mentor meeting will also provide an intro to this very popular genre of photography. Carol will share her journey into the macro world and provide tips and techniques for capturing compelling images. You can see some of her macro images and more on her [website](#).

January Outings:

Night Sky Photography Outing - January 9

What better way to get night sky photos for our monthly competition of "Stars in the Sky" theme than a club outing! By now, we are masters at flexibility and change, and this is one event that is definitely weather-related. Be sure to check the website and schedule page for updates!



[Boathouse Row and Museum of Art](#) - January 31



© Mark Bergkvist Photography

If you're familiar with iconic images of Philadelphia, you know that Boathouse Row and the Art Museum grounds (including the steps memorialized by Sylvester Stallone in Rocky) are among some of the most widely photographed. This late afternoon outing will provide opportunities for you to capture these sites in optimum lighting as afternoon turns to dusk and evening. The image on the left, by club member, Mark Bergkvist, is an example of what you can expect to see on this

outing. Mark teaches and leads workshops through his company [The Photography Workshop](#).

More Upcoming Outings

Here are some of the upcoming photo meet-ups and club outings planned for the next few months. Keep an eye out for more information in emails and on the schedule page as it becomes available.

- Valley Forge
- Stroud Preserve
- On and below the Ben Franklin Bridge
- Marsh Creek at Daybreak

Dates to Remember

In-person gatherings will continue to be replaced with virtual options until further notice.

Be sure to check the [CCCC Home page](#) and the [Schedule page](#) regularly for updates.

- Sun, Jan 3 [Print Critique Group](#)
- Wed, Jan 6 [Members' Forum](#)
- Sat, Jan 9 [PhotoPills Workshop](#)
- Wed, Jan 13 [Monthly Meeting](#)
- Wed, Jan 20 [Mentor Meeting](#)
- Wed, Jan 27 [Monthly Competition](#)
- Sun, Jan 31 [Boathouse Row and Art Museum](#)
- Wed, Feb 3 [Members' Forum](#)
- Sun, Feb 7 [Print Critique Group](#)
- Wed, Feb 10 [Monthly Meeting](#)
- Wed, Feb 17 [Mentor Meeting](#)
- Wed, Feb 24 [Monthly Competition](#)

Welcome to our Newest Members!

We are happy to welcome some new members since our last newsletter came out; we look forward to getting to know you and joining us on your photographic journey. We hope you enjoy all the club has to offer.

Bob Becker, Corrine Masur, Arrappan Nair, Michele Scott, and Noah Scott

This month our volunteer spotlight shines on long-time member and volunteer extraordinaire, Jim Wilson!



Jim has been a member of CCCC for just over 13 years and has held many volunteer roles during that time. He's been on the workshop committee for three years and

has been the chairman for the past two. He also is a very active and helpful mentor and currently leads occasional outings, something he's quite adept at, having previously served as the outings coordinator for five years.

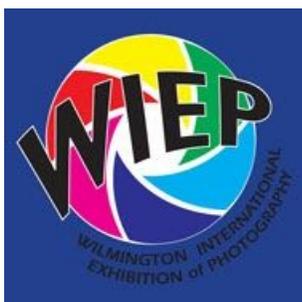
He's enjoyed photography since his late teens, but only got serious when he joined our club. He doesn't have a favorite type of photography; he just shoots what he finds interesting, and that changes all the time. Lately he's been doing a lot of B&W, including going back to film with an old Rolleiflex. He's also been experimenting with lighting in preparation for a mentor meeting presentation he will be doing in February.

Jim says he's learned a lot from many different club members starting with people like Ed Heaton and Steve Frederick when he first joined, continuing up to Betsy; they bounce ideas off each other constantly. Having run so many outings over the years, he's been able to shoot with many different photographers with different styles, and he feels that you can't help but learn in that kind of atmosphere.

As a big music junkie, (Jim likes everything from opera to chamber music to jazz to rock to folk and just about anything that he finds interesting) he worked for many years with The Musicland Group, and was lucky to meet and spend some time with many wonderful artists. When his children were young, he decided to get out of that business and work from home, building and restoring wooden canoes, another of Jim's passions. To quote Jim on that subject: "Not a lot of money there, but I got to be home with the kids. Mr Mom!"

He's retired now, but still enjoys working on and paddling canoes that seem to be getting heavier every year and he just might have to invest in a kevlar boat eventually. Jim is vice president of the Delaware Valley Chapter of the Wooden Canoe Heritage Association, an international organization for lovers of wooden canoes both antique and new, and he and Betsy are the editors of the annual calendar that is offered through the organization's website and in a number of retail locations.

Opportunities to Show Your Work



The 88th Annual Wilmington International Exhibition of Photography is accepting submissions for their 2021 show until Monday, February 15, 2021. Don't miss this opportunity to have your work displayed locally with photographers from around the world!

<http://www.wilmingtoninternational.org/>

Members in the News

A special final gift to the CCCC community comes from multi-talented members **Linda Litwin** and **Lois Mauro**. While rehearsing "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" they decided to share the message of Love and Friendship and Being Together again with our friends..

Take a few minutes and enjoy their [wonderful music posted to YouTube](#).



Beautifully done Linda and Lois - thank you!

Learning Opportunities

Some of the best things in life are free and that also goes for free on-line photography tutorials! Google is a wonderful way to search and find tutorials of all kinds, some general and some very specific. Here is just one option from [digitaldefynd](#) that lists 12 Best and Free On-line Photography Courses. Do some searching - you'll be amazed what you find.

Competition Tips and Techniques



The winter months are known for cold, clear nights with lots of stars, galaxies, and planets visible in the sky. What a perfect month for a “**Stars in the Sky**” theme for our monthly competition, and the club outing earlier in the month is the perfect opportunity to capture those winning images. Need more inspiration? Click [here](#) for valuable tips and techniques.

Be sure to regularly check the [CCCC Homepage](#) for news and updates, as well as 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 DeGuseppi](#) or [Betsy Wilson](#).

And the last laugh goes to...



This month's volunteer of the month, Jim Wilson. His wife Betsy wanted to point out that in addition to his love for photography and canoes, he also has a love for beer.

Carry on, Jim!