

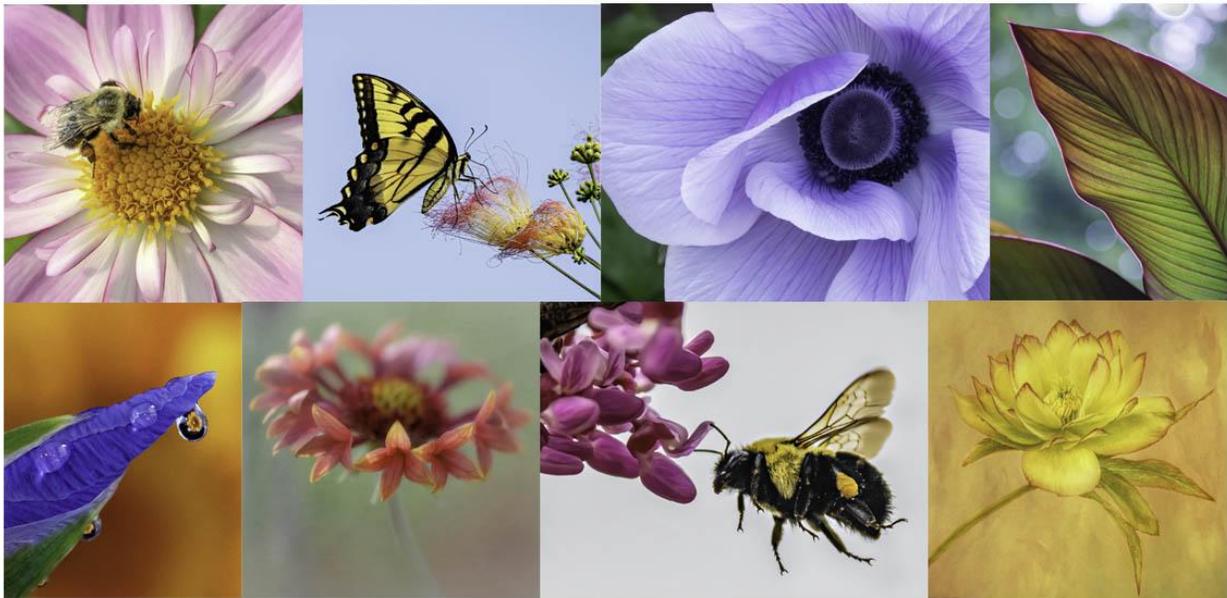


Chester County Camera Club

a community of photographers

April 2021 Newsletter

Spring has (finally) Sprung!



Clockwise from top left: Helen Wagner, Peter Neuschul, Navjot Hanspal, Sarah Staub, Anita Bower, Svenne Juul, Valerie Dunn, Ginia Apostolacus.

Spring is a time for buds and blooms, fresh air and sunshine, lush new green grass, and a feel-good attitude towards just about everything. It's a time of re-awakening and new birth in the natural world. Poets and songwriters write uplifting and descriptive words about springtime that make us all want to smile and sing along!

After a year like we've had, the spring season could be the much anticipated re-awakening we need to give our photography a boost of inspiration. As photographers, this is a perfect time to capture and really learn to appreciate the world around us. And what a perfect area we live in! Did you know that the Philadelphia region is known as ['America's Garden Capital'](#) and has over 30 gardens within 30 miles!

Everyone may not be a floral photographer, but these gardens offer something for everyone including impressive architecture, sprawling landscapes and vistas, sculptures, historic homes, and more. So, get up off the couch, dust off your lenses, and enjoy the outdoors as it was meant to be - with a camera in hand!!

February Highlights:

Members' Forum - Using Photographs to Tell Stories with Peter Guman

TAINA, CINDY & DANIELA



We Are Family
We are family
I got all my sisters with me
Get up everybody and sing
All of the people around us they say
Can they be that close
Just let me state for the record
We're giving love in a family dose
- Sister Sledge

CCCC member Peter Guman gave an excellent presentation about "Ink Stories". Peter not only captured fascinating and unreserved stories about his subjects, he also shared an honest description of his own journey of learning how to connect with people and present images and stories with some very meaningful and sometimes raw emotion. The above example unites the intertwined heart tattoo symbolizing sisterly connection with the pose of the sisters with their interwoven arms, demonstrating the attention Peter gives to portraying his subjects with care and insight. A lively discussion followed this presentation. To see the pdf of the slide show or to watch the video, [click here](#).



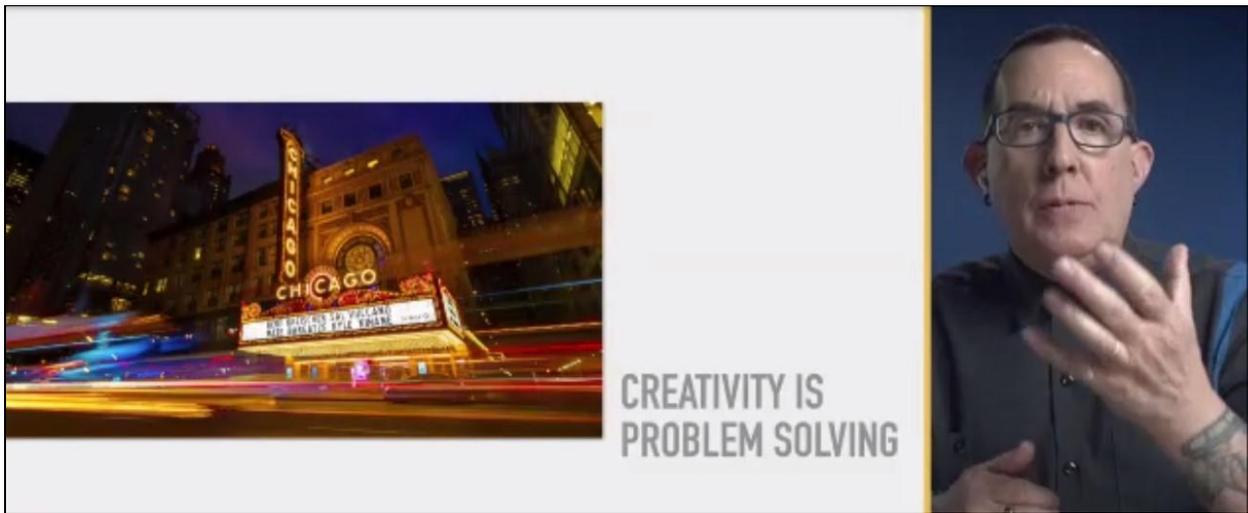
Club Outing: Under and On the Ben Franklin Bridge

Some gusty winds were no match for this group of determined photographers! We met on the Race Street Pier for a group shot before going our own ways to find new photographic subjects.

You can see images taken on the outing in the [club gallery](#).

Monthly Presentation – Joe Edelman

Understanding Creativity



A giant THANK YOU to Joe Edelman who enthusiastically jumped in to replace our scheduled presenter who had to cancel at the last minute. Joe presented a different approach to “seeing” the photograph we want to take. He spoke about how personal perspective and attention to detail, as opposed to formal RULES, often separate the good from the great. He shared a new definition of Creativity that will free your thought process and change the way you approach creating.

After a fun interactive exercise where we practiced “seeing”, Joe shared his TOP TEN TIPS for improving your creativity to become a better photographer.



*“Practice, practice,
practice...”*

*then Practice Some
More!”*

To watch a recording of Joe’s lively presentation, [click here](#).

Mentor Meeting -

A Conversation about Street Photography by Dick Greenwood

CCCC member Dick Greenwood shared in-depth information and ideas to help us photograph everyday life in public places. He provided lots of inspiration and very helpful tips on how to stay “street-smart” and get great images. He shared many great examples while explaining how to set-up the shot, set-up your camera, and things to avoid.

“Street Photography is primarily focused on people being people”



Monthly Critique Group: a safe place for friendly advice



CCCC member Sue Hare shared multiple versions of the same image and asked for opinions as to which ones people favored and why. Of course, there were a variety of opinions, but some wonderful insight was shared that can help us understand why people have different reactions to our images than we may have. And everyone enjoyed learning and sharing ideas with each other. The critique group meets once a month via Zoom to show a few of their photographs and receive constructive feedback from fellow photographers. Want to join in the fun? [Click here](#) for info.

Another option for constructive feedback in a friendly forum is on the club facebook page **CCCC Critique Group**. It is a closed group (you need to ask to join) which provides a safe atmosphere to get friendly advice from fellow CCCC members. And no one other than admitted members to the group can see your image or any comments, so go ahead, and post that quirky image that you like, but not sure if others will!

March Competition - "Ruins"

Guest Judge David DesRochers provided an excellent learning experience as he provided encouragement and suggestions for image enhancement on many images. The assigned topic of "Ruins" had a whopping 49 entries in color and 21 in monochrome.



Congratulations to Eric Loken who took the blue ribbon for first place in both color and monochrome in the assigned topic of "Ruins" for his haunting images of Pennhurst Asylum.



Congratulations to Betsy Wilson for her first place award in the open color category for "Arabesque" and to Denise Molzahn for first place in open monochrome for "On the Ben", taken on the recent club outing to Ben Franklin Bridge. This was the first time Denise entered a CCCC competition, and she earned the blue ribbon!

Club Outing: Marsh Creek at Daybreak



Quite a crowd assembled pre-dawn at the lakeside of beautiful Marsh Creek State Park to photograph the sunrise. CCCC member Bob Kelly captured the serene image of photographers at dawn before this curious horse gave his tripod a slobbery kiss. Images from members can be seen in the club [gallery](#).

Upcoming Events:



Book Auction

April 5-12

Just when you thought CCCC couldn't offer up more fun, we decided to throw a Book Auction! A very nice gentleman, Alan Warren,

recently donated more than 60 books on photography to the club. The topics are mostly biographical or about the history of photography, including an Ansel Adams autobiography, authors like W. Eugene Smith and Margaret Bourke-White, and subjects like the history of the Daguerreotype and Ellis Island and so much more. With no place to maintain a "library" we thought why not auction them off. The proceeds will be used to host more great events for CCCC members.

We are promoting this to members only in order to keep it local. Once the auction closes we will select a centrally located pick-up point. NO SHIPPING. If you are unable to pick up your books, please make other arrangements. These books are priced to sell with starting bids ranging from \$5 to \$20. Some First Editions are included; all books are interesting and in very good to excellent condition. We have done our best to provide descriptions of content (pulled from other sources).

When: Bidding runs April 5, 12:00 pm to April 12, 8:00 pm

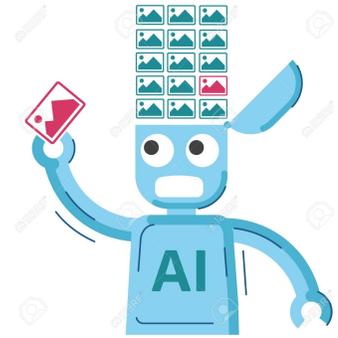
Where: On-line (A link will be sent out April 1 for previewing)

Payment: Credit card **Pick up:** TBD **Questions?** Email [Ginia Apostolacus](#)

Members' Forum - April 7

AI Photography Tools with Bob Kelly

It's the 21st Century and Artificial Intelligence (AI) is no longer something that will happen in the future! It's here and Bob Kelly will tell us all about it in this very informative presentation. Join us to see if this is a turning point for photography as art.



Monthly Critique Group - April 11



Here's a chance 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. To join in the fun, simply let [Jim Samanen](#) know of your interest.

Note: Due to Easter Sunday, the critique group will meet on the second Sunday of April

Monthly Meeting - April 14

Recording and Processing RAW on your mobile phone

Guest speaker, Rad Drew



Have you ever come upon the perfect shot, but don't have your camera with you? Instead of kicking yourself, just reach for your phone! This month's guest speaker, Rad Drew will show us how to make amazing and creative images with what's in your pocket. He'll show us how to shoot and process raw images with Lightroom Pro Camera. You'll never be without a camera again!

Mentor Meeting - April 21

Action Photography and Digital Image Critique **Svenne Juul**



If you're familiar with Svenne's photography, you know he likes to capture his subjects in action, like the image on the left from a club outing to FDR Skate Park in Phila. Sometimes he stops the action and other times his images give a feeling of movement. In this Mentor/Mentee Meeting, he'll share his tips and techniques on just how he does this. After his presentation, there will be a review of images previously submitted by mentees.

April Outings:

Shenks Ferry Wildflower Preserve - April 11



[Shenks Ferry](#) is an historic archaeological site in Lancaster County. It underwent excavations in 1930-1931 and 1973, which identified the presence of a village and seasonal campsites dated to the Late Woodland period (500 AD - 1000 AD). It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is renowned for its display of wildflowers and birds. Nature photogs - this one's for you! Bluebell image at Shenks Ferry by Richard Donham.

Jenkins Arboretum - April 24

If you've never been to Jenkins Arboretum, you're in for a treat! Azaleas, rhododendrons and bluebells are abundant at this 46 acre oasis that was once a private residence. The Arboretum celebrated its 40th anniversary in 2016 with the launch of the *Forever Jenkins: Endow an Acre* campaign that will ensure the Arboretum remains free, open, and growing for generations to come. If Mother Nature is cooperative, we could see beautiful blooms like this. While there is no admission fee, donations are much appreciated.



More Upcoming Outings

Here are two 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.

- Hawk Mountain
- Chester County Balloon Festival

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

Lighting Workshops - April 3 and April 17

Two workshops in April will focus on helping us understand and learn how to use lighting, both continuous and flash, to improve our photography. New CCCC member and President of the Lehigh Valley Photography Club, Bob Becker, will address different types of lighting and how to set exposure in the first workshop. The second workshop will be all about how to get the most out of your speedlights with live demonstrations. If you find the use of those artificial light sources intimidating, here is your chance to dive in and expand your photographic horizons. It is suggested that those interested participate in both workshops to gain the maximum benefit. The [first workshop is April 3](#), with the second workshop on [April 17](#), so put this on your calendar and let Workshop Coordinator [Jim Wilson](#) know if you're interested.



Dates to Remember

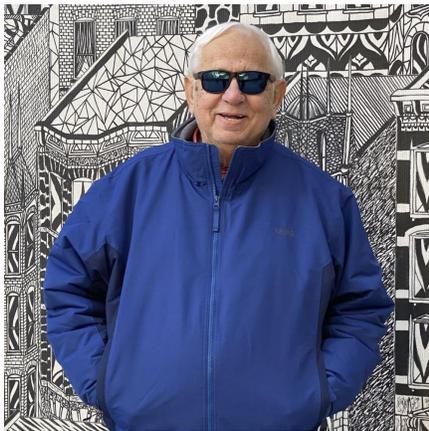
In-person gatherings will continue to be replaced with virtual and socially distant options until further notice. Be sure to check the [Schedule page](#) regularly for updates.

- Sat, Apr 3 Virtual Workshop - [Photography Using Lighting](#)
- Mon, Apr 5 [Book Auction](#) Opens
- Wed, Apr 7 [Members' Forum](#)
- Sun, Apr 11 Club Outing - [Shenks Ferry](#)
- Sun, Apr 11 [Monthly Critique Group](#)
- Wed, Apr 14 [Monthly Meeting](#)
- Sat, Apr 17 Virtual Workshop - [Speedlights](#)
- Wed, Apr 21 [Mentor Meeting](#)
- Sat, Apr 24 Club Outing - [Jenkins Arboretum](#)
- Wed, Apr 28 [Monthly Competition](#)

Welcome to our Newest Members

We are happy to welcome our newest members, **Alice Waegel** and **Debbie Laverell** who both attended their first meeting in March. Helen Wagner recommended our club to Alice, and Debbie was referred by Nima Marsh, and then realized she also knew Helen from her work with Garden Club of America. We look forward to getting to know Alice and Debbie and their photographic styles in the coming months.

Dick Greenwood is in the volunteer spotlight this month!



Dick has been a member of our club for eight “*fun-filled and growth inspiring years.*” He previously served as the Competition Chair and also co-chair of the Monthly Critique Group, and this month used his teaching experience and presented “A Conversation About Street Photography” to our club’s Mentor Group in March.

Dick’s involvement with photography began in 1967, when he was working in the aerospace industry filming bullets coming out of machine gun barrels. Before his company sent him to Vietnam for 18-months, he bought every photography magazine he could find, and stopped in Tokyo to purchase a Nikkormat FTn. In Vietnam he was selected to shoot the squadron’s “cruise book,” which is similar to a yearbook, and he really enjoyed it. Dick was shooting everyday scenes around the base and working in the darkroom, learning how to develop and print. Back in the States, he built his own darkroom and began doing industrial photography as part of his job as a Technical Editor.

His work life was split into two periods: the first in the aerospace industry and the second as a professor/administrator at Montgomery County Community College. While very different, both jobs involved many “shoot me now” moments. Now retired, Dick volunteers at Tyler Arboretum where he designed and taught a course in garden photography and writes articles for their newsletter.

In his spare time, Dick enjoys writing. He recently completed a novel and is currently in the process of making revisions. He previously wrote a regular column for a major Chesapeake Bay boating magazine—he was into boating at the time, so it was a perfect fit!

Dick describes himself as a minimalist landscape photographer and a street photographer. He tends to stay away from cliché or iconic photos that everyone shoots, not because they’re not good, but because he just wants to shoot things that other people don’t. While others were shooting ships at a club outing to the Philadelphia Navy Yard, his favorite

image of that day was a shot of another member looking at the biggest garage door he's ever seen!

Dick says he's in awe of his fellow CCCC members who are willing to take chances and go for shots that demand their pushing the envelope and acquiring and refining new skills.

When asked if there was anything else he wanted to share, Dick's sentiments went immediately to CCCC. *"We're very lucky to have CCCC and its various offerings available to us. Having the opportunity to work with outstanding photographers has been a wonderful experience. Seeing the wonderful work done by the members of CCCC keeps me motivated to up my game and learn from what I see."*

Opportunities to Show Your Work

Pennsylvania Magazine 2021 Photo Contest - deadline April 15

Here's your last chance to have your winning photograph(s) published in the Pennsylvania Magazine and win cash prizes! There are three categories: Black and White; Wildlife; and Scenic Views and Vistas. Images must be of a PA locale and taken between 1/1/2018 and present. Get all the details here: <https://pa-mag.com/2021photo/>

Audubon 2021 Photography Awards Contest - deadline April 7

Calling all bird photographers! Here's a contest just for you with some big cash prizes! All images must depict birdlife, i.e., contain at least one bird or bird part and accurately reflect the subject matter as it appeared in your viewfinder. For the rest of the details, click here: <https://www.audubon.org/get-outside/audubon-photography-awards-official-rules>

Learning Opportunities

The [Digital Photo School](#) provides hundreds of free photo tips. Need some inspiration or want to try something new? Check out some of their free info and get inspired!

[Lightstalking.com](#) features many free short tutorials as well as more extensive, affordable courses. Learning and motivation is extended by connecting to an online community forum for sharing of images and constructive feedback.

Did you enjoy this month's presentation by **Joe Edelman**? If you want to learn more from Joe, watch his training videos on his [YouTube channel](#). You will be entertained, informed and inspired!

Competition Tips and Techniques



The Assigned Theme for April is **Stop Action Photography**.

Think of it as frozen in time where all the action stops! The image on the left, courtesy of Apogee Photo Magazine is a great example. The kayaker is definitely moving, but the photographer captured a moment in time and froze all the action. How? What settings were used? Follow this [link](#) for answers to your questions and valuable tips, techniques, and inspiration for this month's assigned theme

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

And the last laugh goes to...

The very creative and eclectic Bob Friedman



“What are YOU looking at?!”