



Chester County Camera Club

a community of photographers

September 2020 Newsletter

“It will be a year like no other”

Hello fellow photographers,

After a terrific and challenging two-year term by Howard Sundwal, I am honored to be the current president of Chester County Camera Club. The bar is set high for Club leadership and I intend to continue to lead CCCC as “A Community of Photographers” through whatever confronts us in the year ahead. I am committed to making sure that the value of your membership far exceeds your expectations.

No doubt that the Covid pandemic has changed the way we operate but it has not changed the energy, comradery, and commitment we have in keeping CCCC a viable and relevant place to be inspired, learn new things and make new friends. With that being said it will be a year like no other! Our goal for the coming Club year is to keep you engaged and continue to offer a line up of speakers that will bring insight and information. Along with the rest of the world we have had to learn new ways of doing things. So, as we continue to evolve during this pandemic, please be patient with our Steering Committee and team of Committee Chairs as we learn to navigate this new world.

I look forward to working with everyone to keep CCCC as one of the best camera clubs around!

Keep shooting and stay safe!
Ginia Apostolacus

Introducing our Newly-Elected Officers for 2020-2021



Left to right: President - Ginia Apostolacus, Vice President - Carolyn Mead, Treasurer - Helen Wagner, Secretary - Pat Rhubottom, Members at Large - Steve Whitney and Paul Stewart

Ginia Apostolacus, President

Ginia has been an avid photographer since she bought her first film slr in ninth grade. When she was busy raising three kids her interest waned slightly but was reignited with the purchase of her first dslr, which led her to join CCCC in 2012. She's happy to have made many new friends who inspired and challenged her to take her photography to the next level. She loves all kinds of photography from creative to portraiture to minimalism, but her favorite is black & white.

Along with her personal camera "sherpa", her husband Bill, Ginia enjoys hiking, bicycling, and seeking out new Rail-Trails to explore. She is a "Force of Nature" volunteer with Natural Lands where she helps in planting trees, clearing invasive species and assisting at events. This past Spring, Ginia became a Certified Professional Photographer through Professional Photographers of America.



Carolyn Mead, Vice President

Carolyn joined the club in May 2018 with the hope of finally mastering camera and post processing techniques. She is extremely grateful to the wonderful club members who have been so encouraging and willing to share their accumulated knowledge.

She is a fan of black and white street photography. Carolyn first fell in love with fine art photography on a middle school field trip to the Museum of Modern Art when she wandered into a Henri Cartier Bresson exhibit. That was her "decisive moment" when photography became a favorite pastime.

Carolyn has inflicted her love of photography on her accommodating husband and two good-natured sons. Since both sons are avid rowers, she has a huge collection of extremely similar photos of crew shells on rivers. After retiring from a career as a securities lawyer, she is now free to dedicate more time to the fun things in life like hanging out with friends, photography, her book club, and traveling.



Pat Rubottom, Secretary

About five years ago, Pat joined the club primarily to learn new things and push her photo skills up a notch, but says because of the friendships she's made along the way, she's gained so much more.

She enjoys many areas of photography including coastal landscapes, macro, and "phloragraphy." Pat became interested in photography many years ago, and her interest ebbed and flowed as life and work permitted. Now that she's retired from her life as a human resources projects manager, she spends a lot of time at Chanticleer and Longwood Gardens. Pat gets her inspiration from many artists, her favorites being Monet, Wyeth, and photographers Dorothea Lange and Margaret Bourke-White. Contemporary photographers include Jackie Lawson, Kathleen Clemons, and Sara Marino.



In her spare time, Pat loves to renovate and redecorate her home and dreams of resuming travel in 2021, hopefully back to St. Michaels, Cape Cod and Maine.

Helen Wagner, Treasurer

Helen joined CCCC in 2014 and has enhanced her photographic skills as she began participating in all the club offerings, learning from our guest speakers and the different perspectives of our members. This is her second term as Treasurer. She previously led the outreach committee and was instrumental in the coordination and installation of the Penn State Great Valley Exhibit.

While the career that supports her retirement was in financial management for large corporations, she now spends her time as a horticulture assistant at Longwood Gardens. Her interest in gardening also led her to be involved with various local and national garden clubs; however, she's looking forward to shifting her interests more towards photography in the future.

She describes her photographic style as eclectic, as she enjoys street photography but also shooting landscapes and architecture.



Paul Stewart, Member at Large



“Stu” has been a member of our club for about 12 years and is an active volunteer in our very popular Mentor Program.

He likes to dabble in different types of photography, but his favorite is portrait. This is clearly evident during our parties when he sets up a mini-studio, complete with lighting, backdrops, and props to capture shots of us having fun! He also enjoys shooting large events and is an accomplished wedding photographer.

In his other life, he designs commercial refrigerators and enjoys grilling and smoking all types of barbecue. He likes to experiment with any type of new technology and has been adding more smart home features to his house. Lastly, but most importantly, he enjoys spending time with his wife and two young sons, Miles and JD.

Steve Whitney, Member at Large

Steve has been a member of CCCC for the past eight years and has proven to be a very helpful volunteer on various occasions, including participating on the committee for our last Penn State Great Valley exhibit.

He enjoys landscape photography and takes the time to really examine a scene before pushing the shutter button. Steve has done in-depth studies on the artwork of Andrew Wyeth and how his art relates to photography. You may recall, many of his competition images have a certain Wyeth look to them.



Steve is a Financial Analyst by day with many hidden talents during his off-time. He is an actor and singer involved with Chester County's Community ACT Players Theater Company. His credits include a role in the well-known musical, *Sweeney Todd*, in which his son also had a part, as well as a role in *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*. Steve enjoys playing softball and traveling to Maine whenever he can.

IT'S MEMBERSHIP
RENEWAL TIME!



It's Time to Renew Your Membership!

The new club year is upon us and that means it's time to renew your membership. What a great deal for such an affordable cost.... Monthly Meetings with amazing guest speakers; Members'

Forums presented by your peers; Trips and outings without the hassle of a travel agent; a world-class Mentor Program; Monthly Competitions with valuable critiques; Print critique groups, and so much more!! All for a low annual fee of \$45 for a single membership and a reduced rate for additional family members. This year we've made it even easier for you to renew with PayPal, and we should have an e-application available by Sept 3. So, don't delay, renew now and tell your photo friends. All information is on our website at the bottom of the [Meeting and Visitor Info](#) tab.

Print Critique Group

A few Print Critique sessions were held over the summer - some were virtual Zoom meetings, and one was an in-person meeting at the beautiful home of Carolyn Mead, where attendees safely socially-distanced on her expansive porch. These monthly gatherings allow members to show a few of their photographs and receive constructive feedback from fellow photographers. [More info here.](#)



CCCC Meetup Group!

Be sure to join the club's Meetup group to stay informed of last-minute photo opportunities as well as regular club outings. . This image of the Coatesville Countryside by Svenne Juul was taken at a Meetup he organized in July to shoot the Milky Way. This is a great way to share information about socially-distant safe opportunities to get out and



practice! If you are not already a Meetup member, simply register as a member of Meetup.com, then search for [Chester County Camera Club](#) and ask to join our group. Most posts will be closed to the public and will only be viewable to our members, providing a safe forum to communicate with other members about an upcoming event.



August Virtual Presentation: Cole Thompson - Why Black & White?



A fascinating and thought-provoking presentation by Photographer Cole Thompson was enjoyed by CCCC members in August. His amazing black and white fine art photography reflects his personal vision, and he shared the story behind many of his images. We enjoyed wonderful black & white photographs that covered a wide range of subjects, from portfolios such as The Ghosts of Auschwitz, Harbinger (clouds), Melting Giants (icebergs), Maoi Standing, and some of his favorite individual images, such as The Angel Gabriel. If you missed it, [click here](#) to see a recording of the Zoom meeting.

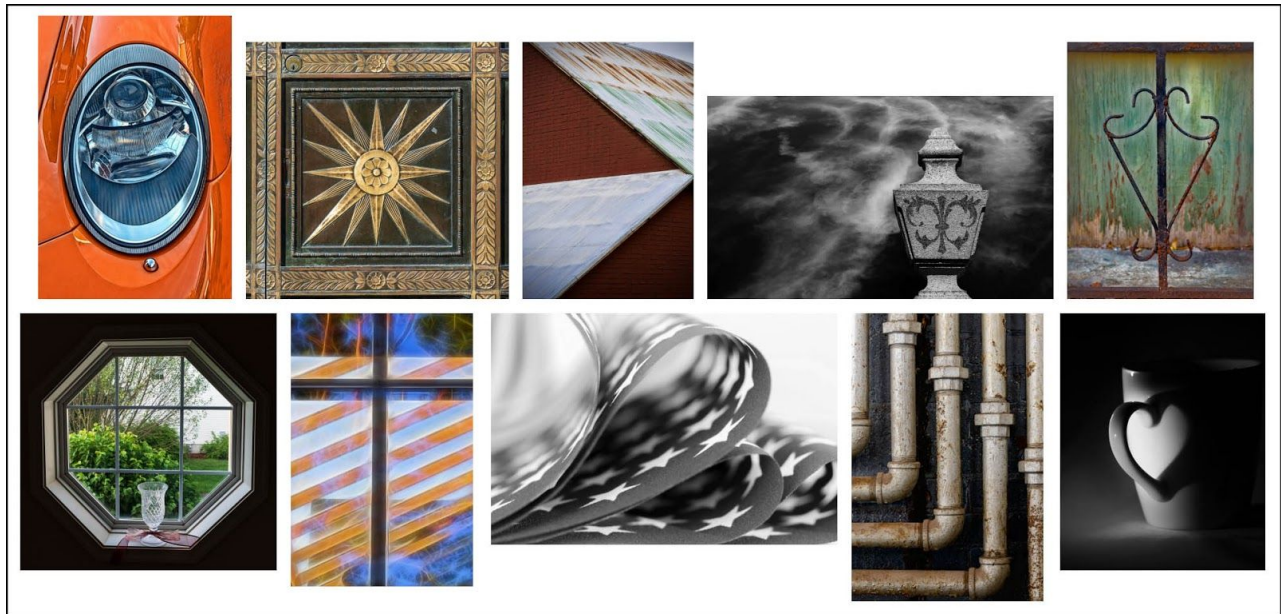
Summer Challenge - Shapes!



The second Summer Challenge outing took place on a warm summer evening in the quaint village of St. Peters. A tiny town with lots of charm and a series of cascading streams over picturesque granite boulders provided plenty of photo opportunities. Thank you to Stephanie Vacek and Anita Bower for organizing yet another great Summer Challenge!



A gallery of shapes



Clockwise from top left: Oval by Anita Bower, Square by Sally Loken, Triangles by Carolyn Mead, Trapezoid by Jim Wilson, Kite by Carol DeGuisseppi, Heart by Ginia Apostolacus, Cylinders by Pat Rhubottom, Stars by Maureen Mulloney, Cross by Sally Riddle, Octagon by Eric Loken.

Here are a few images from the galleries. Check out all of the fun and creative interpretations of shapes by checking the website [gallery](#), (the first listing under Club Outings / 2019-2020 club year)

Upcoming Events: Monthly Meeting – September 9



Sarah Marino

[Beyond the Great Landscape -Expanding Your Vision to Include Nature's Smaller Scenes](#)

We are thrilled to have Sarah Marino, a full-time nature photographer, photography educator, and writer to kick off our new club year. Sarah will speak to us via Zoom about nature photography with an emphasis on creativity, personal expression, seeing opportunities in any landscape, photographing nature's small scenes, and a slow style of photography focused on exploration and connecting with nature. A Zoom Meeting invitation link will be sent to all club members a day or two prior to the meeting.

Mentor Meeting - Sept 16



Are you excited about photography, but still a bit intimidated by all those buttons and menu items on your camera? Are you intrigued by post-processing but not sure where to start? Our club has a wide range of levels of expertise - from total beginner to professional, but we all started from the same place - knowing nothing! Mentor meetings allow mentors and mentees to gather to ask questions and help each other in a stress-free environment. Our first zoom meeting will be held September 16, with an opening presentation on “Everything you Need to Know to Get Ready for a Competition” by Ginia Apostolacus. If you are a mentee and want to learn, contact [Mike Keba](#) and let him know. And if you are more experienced, and want to mentor others, please contact [Buzz](#)

[Mossholder](#). A Zoom Meeting invitation link will be sent to all participants a day or two prior to the meeting. Pictured from last year is Mentee Mike Keba learning a Lightroom technique from Mentor Matt Keller.

Members' Forum - Sept 17



Join us for our first Members' Forum of the year as Svenne Juul presents an introduction to the unique challenges of [Dark Sky Photography](#). If you want an introduction to or tips on improving your night-sky photography, you won't want to miss this. Note: *this first Members' Forum is on a Thursday; subsequent sessions will be on the first Wednesday of each month.*

Upcoming Outings

We have a stellar outings program planned for this year that will take us to some amazing places to capture top-notch photographs and do it all in a safe and responsible manner. Here are the first ones for the month of September, which you won't want to miss! All outings for the year are posted on the schedule page of our website.

[Philadelphia Navy Yard](#) - Saturday, September 12



"The coolest shipyard in America" - according to Politico and many industry observers, it is a combination of repurposed military and industrial assets along with beautiful parks, outdoor recreation and some surprising artwork pop-up installations. Join the fun for the first socially-distant safe outing of the year. Details are on the [website schedule page](#). And you can check out some images from a past outing in the [gallery here](#).

[FDR Skatepark](#)

Sunday, September 20

Join fellow club members on this fun outing and you might just capture an action shot like this one by Carolyn Mead.



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.

- Wed, Sept 9 [Monthly Meeting](#)
- Sat - Sept 12 Club Outing - [Philadelphia Navy Yard](#)
- Wed, Sept 16 [Mentor Meeting](#)
- Thurs, Sept 17 [Members' Forum](#)
- Sun, Sept 20 Club Outing - [FDR Skatepark](#) - Philadelphia
- Wed, Sept 23 [Monthly Competition](#)
- Wed, Oct 7 [Members Forum](#)
- Sat, Oct 10 Club Outing - [Rough & Tumble: A Time of Harvest Show](#), Kinzers, PA
- Wed, Oct 14 [Monthly Meeting](#)
- Sun, Oct 18 Club Outing - [Street Photography](#), Reading, PA
- Wed, Oct 28 [Monthly Competition](#)
- Sat, Oct 31 Club Outing - [Sultana Downrigging](#), Chestertown, MD

Opportunities to Show Your Work



Pennsylvania Center for Photography is accepting submissions until October 1st for their very popular Transformations Exhibit. Anything goes in this creative exhibit, including textures, composites, filters, and any other tool that is available. You can get all the details and registration information [here](#).

Learning Opportunities

Adobe Max-The Creativity Conference - FREE!! Save these dates (October 20-22) and prepare to be inspired. Get all the details and registration information [here](#).

Free Online Video Training - Phlearn. Have you taken advantage of Phlearn? [Phlearn](#) is a series of YouTube videos that provide a wide array of tutorials on photography and photoshop.

*Additional on-line opportunities are listed in the [forum](#), established by member **Peter Guman**, where members can post links to online training they have found to be helpful and would like to share with others. Want to receive an email when a new opportunity is listed? It's easy - just click on one of the forum topics and then click on Edit Subscription. Discussion Forums are on the website under [Club Information](#)/ Forums.*

Online Training Opportunities

Public Forum

Members can share links to training videos, You-Tube tutorials, photography websites, etc. And feel free to comment about training videos or websites that you found beneficial.

[View Topics](#)

Competition Tips and Techniques

This month's assigned competition category, **The World at Peace**, comes during unprecedented times, the likes of which none of us have experienced before, and it can mean different things to different people. Here's your opportunity to share what "The World at Peace" looks like to you. Calmness, serenity, tranquility, or something else. Capture your feelings in an image and enter it into the monthly competition.

Examples and ideas for this topic and those for other monthly themes can be found [here](#).

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 for an upcoming monthly newsletter, please contact newsletter editors [Carol DeGuiseppe](#) or [Betsy Wilson](#).