



Chester County Camera Club

a community of photographers

December 2020 Newsletter

Let's Ring in the Holidays - 2020 Style!



2019 First Place winner in the Holiday Photo Contest by Carol DeGuiseppe

The 2020 winter holidays are upon us and we plan to ring them in 2020 style, which will be quite different from previous years. Flexibility was key this year and remains a top priority as we embrace the holiday season. Our annual holiday party has always been a highlight of the season, and this year is no different. The show will go on - on the Internet via Zoom, that is! So, get those ugly sweaters ready and any other holiday garb you'd like to show off and get ready to party like it's 2020!

We will have our annual winter/holiday photo contest and will vote on the winners at the party, just like we did in the past. Detailed instructions for submitting your images are listed [here](#). The committee is also working on other interactive activities to entertain us throughout the evening. The food and drink is up to you - choose your favorites! Then all you have to worry about is where do you sit to enjoy the festivities!

On behalf of the officers, steering committee, and committee chairs we thank you for all you do to make this the best camera club around and we wish you and your family a very happy, healthy, and safe holiday season. See you at the party!

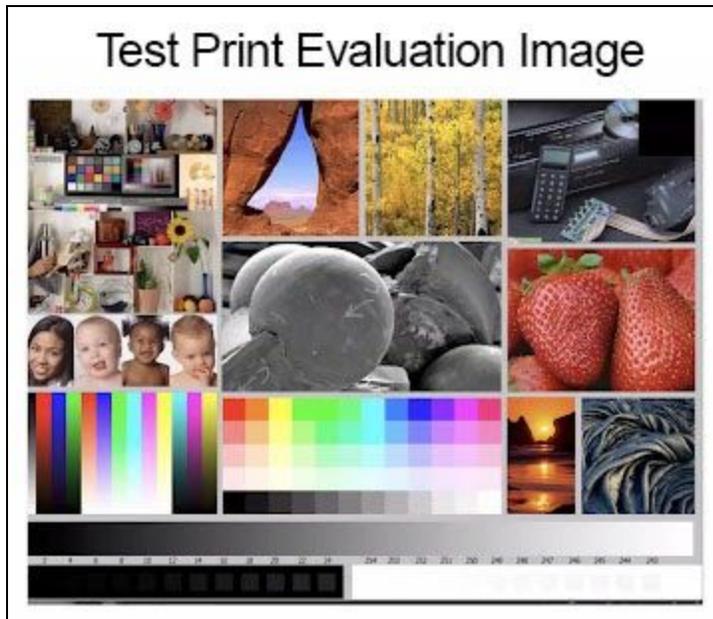
November Highlights:



November speaker and presentation

Peter Hewitt - The Art of Printing

Scientist, Inventor, Author, Photographer and Fine Art Printer



Fine art prints are the yardstick by which critics measure our craft. The only way to truly judge the quality of an image is through the creativity and effort that generates a fine art print. The presentation touched on common printing and workflow issues including the need to control the environment, color management, monitor calibration, and advantages of a consistent workflow.

Print Critique Group

Although we are sharing our images virtually via zoom and not around a real dining room table, CCC members enjoy gathering the first Sunday of the month into small groups to share and comment on each other's images.

Coordinated by Jim Samanen, participation has been high enough to break out into two or three separate groups. In November, Betsy Wilson

hosted one of the meetings and welcomed guests to her dining room table for a zero-calorie Thanksgiving feast. Seated at the table are Betsy, Buzz Mossholder, Sarah Staub, Dan Grantham, Jean Ley, and Wayne Kressley. As Jim Wilson chose to join as an observer and not a participant, he had to sit in the living room. Members are welcome to join these fun and instructive sessions - [click here](#) for more info.



Fort Mifflin Siege Weekend



Fort Mifflin, also known as Mud Island Fort, was commissioned in 1771 and sits on Mud Island on the Delaware River near Philadelphia International Airport. During the American Revolutionary War, the British Army bombarded and captured the fort as part of their conquest of Philadelphia in autumn 1777. Historic preservationists have restored the fort, which is now a National Historic Landmark. During the 'Siege Weekend' CCCC

photographers experienced the battle that defined the Fort at the annual flagship event! To see more images from the outing, [click here](#).



Photo credits left to right: Richard Maynard, Susan Lowry Hare, Joe Hare. Top image: Susan Lowry Hare

November Members Forum Meeting

"Critiquing an Image - Differentiating a Snapshot from a Good Photo from a Work of Art" by Jim Samanen.



Jim provided an in-depth overview of the elements that make an image a work of art and areas to consider when commenting on an image. He then demonstrated by critiquing a few of his own images, and shared experiences when critiques and suggestions by fellow camera club members resulted in changes and improvements to his images. A lively discussion followed - this is definitely an area of interest among our members. A pdf of Jim's presentation is available to [download from the CCCC website](#).

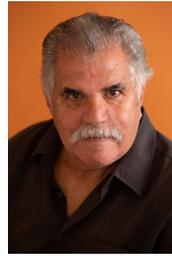
Three Solutions

- Reworking the best image
- Cropping out extraneous detail
- Cropping out extraneous detail
- Going to Monochrome to remove distracting color
- Cropping out extraneous detail
- Increasing contrast and saturation
- Flipping the image to add mystery

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November Competition - "People at Work"

Guest Judge Marv Sloben is a freelance photographer specializing in the built environment. He provides services for architects, designers, contractors and product manufacturers. His photographs have appeared in national and local magazines, corporate brochures, advertising and award presentations. While critiquing our images, he spoke about using composition as an important element, and he stressed the importance of light - that light plays a significant part, whether in sunlight, open shade or manmade, to enhance the view.



Congratulations to William B. Matakas, Jr. who took the first place ribbon for the assigned color category for his image "Delhi Woodworker". First place in the assigned monochrome category went to Carolyn Mead for her image "Street



Cleaner".

First place awards went to Carol DeGuisseppi in the Open Color category for her image "Refractive Raindrops" and to Arvid Bloom in the open Monochrome category for his image "Café Après la Tombée de la Nuit". You can see all the award winners on the CCCC gallery [here](#).



November Workshop: Using Textures with Anita Bower



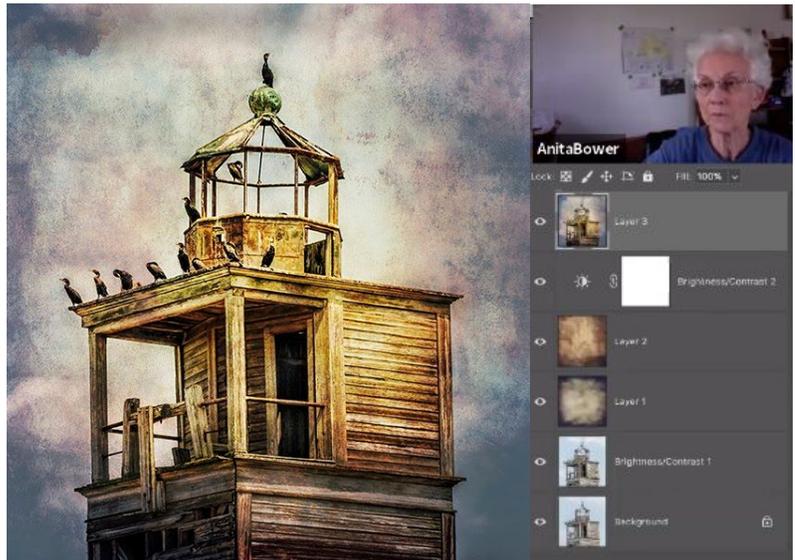
“Anita, thank you so much for being so candid!!! I think you make choices instinctually, not methodically”

“Thank you Anita! I love what you do with your images and adding the textures!”

“Thanks so much, Anita!! Great presentation!”



These are just a few of the many comments shared by participants of the workshop on using textures. Anita wowed thirty-two members with her artistic images and how she created them using textures. She demonstrated step-by-step how to apply textures to photographs and how to use blend modes, opacity and masking to create different effects. Anita primarily uses Photoshop, but also demonstrated work in Topaz Studio. There was quite a bit of interaction as members asked questions and gave their own input. [Click here](#) for a copy of Anita's step-by-step handout.



Upcoming Events:



[Members' Forum - December 2](#)

Dress for Cold Winter Photography by Bob Friedman

Do you hesitate to get outside and shoot during the winter months because you just get too darn cold??!! If that's the case, you're missing out on so many beautiful, peaceful, snowy, winter wonderland scenes. It doesn't have to be like that. Join our Members Forum where Bob Friedman will share his winter dressing tips that will keep you warm and toasty as you capture wonderful winter photos.



[Mentor Meeting December 3](#)

Astrophotography with Svenne Juul

Get the basics and some tips on capturing the night sky from Svenne. There will also be a chance for mentees to have an image critiqued by mentors during this month's meeting.

Zoom in on our [Holiday Party - December 9](#)

You won't want to miss our Holiday Party, 2020 Style! Yes, it will be different, but some things will remain the same! Photo contests, ugly sweaters, and more! Be on the lookout for email updates and check the [website](#) for details.

December Outings

Saturday, December 5 [Hopewell Furnace](#)



Hopewell Furnace is always a popular outing that provides many photo opportunities. Join us on this socially distant, outdoor event to capture some of Pennsylvania history. If you were inspired by Anita Bower's workshop on textures, this may be the place to get some images that you can enhance with textures!

Saturday, December 12

[Boyertown Museum of Historic Vehicles](#)

If you like history and you like vehicles, you'll surely enjoy this outing. See vehicles of all types: gasoline, electric, and horse-drawn, including carriages, wagons, sleighs, and more!



Upcoming Outings

Here are some of the upcoming photo meet-ups and club outings planned for the next few months:

- “Stars in the Sky” somewhere in Pennsylvania
- Philadelphia Boathouse Row and Fairmount Park Area
- Valley Forge
- Stroud Preserve
- On and below the Ben Franklin Bridge
- Marsh Creek at Daybreak

Be sure to keep an eye out for emails and check the schedule page for dates and details

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, Dec 2 [Members' Forum](#)
- Thurs, Dec 3 [Mentor Meeting](#)
- Sun, Dec 6 [Print Critique Group](#)
- Sun, Dec 6 Deadline to [submit holiday images](#)
- Wed, Dec 9 [Holiday Party](#)
- Sat, Dec 12 Club Outing - [Boyertown Museum of Historic Vehicles](#)
- 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](#)

Welcome to our Newest Members!

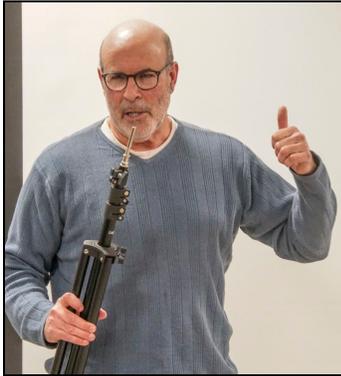
We are happy to welcome two new members since our last newsletter came out; we look forward to getting to know you and joining us on your photographic journey. We hope you enjoy all the club has to offer.

Rick Maynard

Keith Brodeur

This month our volunteer spotlight shines on exceptionally creative, always-willing-to-help Bob Friedman

Volunteer Spotlight



Bob joined our club in 2012 and has become well-known for his very creative and sometimes quirky photographs! He's always willing to share his experiences regarding gear and techniques. Last year he spoke at a Members' Forum in which he shared his indoor lighting set-up and this month he will speak about dressing for cold weather photography, both topics which will be beneficial during the upcoming months.

He's been involved with photography since high school where he was the photo editor for the school newspaper. According to Bob, this was *"way back when I was just a junior nerd before I blossomed into a grown up nerd."*

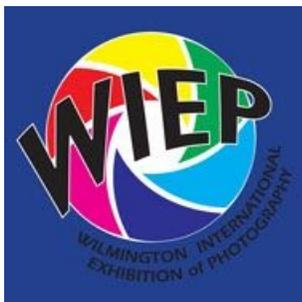
Bob focused his efforts on landscapes for many years while he was hiking, but has expanded his portfolio and now particularly enjoys macro photography, capturing flowers at Longwood Gardens. He also enjoys street photography by going back to his hometown of New York City and shooting all the people, but his biggest thrill these days is photographing his two grandchildren. He was present at both of their births and some of his favorite shots are of when they were born.

Bob says he loves getting advice from various members. His sense of getting "the shot" has been made sharper since comparing his photos with other members' photos. He finds it quite frustrating, humbling, and yet, inspiring, when his photos are critiqued by either members or judges and the flaws are pointed out. In his own words, *"after I'm done putting my tail between my legs, and I get over being despondent, I learn from my mistakes and try to improve upon them."* That's the spirit, Bob! He also indicated he would love to attend the mentor meetings, but has other commitments on those evenings.

Now retired, Bob spent 34 years as a physician delivering babies at Chester County Hospital. He takes pleasure in knowing that when he would venture into West Chester and there was a pregnant woman or a baby in a stroller,

chances were high that he or his partners had something to do with that delivery. Nowadays when he goes into town, people still yell out to him, ““Hey Dr. Friedman! Do you remember this one?!” He simply smiles and then gets back to eating his pizza.

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

Four of our members, **Carol DeGuisseppi, Fiona Keyes, Eric Loken, and Sally Loken**, currently have images on display in the **Pennsylvania Center for Photography Transformations Exhibit**. This annual, creative, anything goes exhibit is virtual this year, and you can view all the creativity from the comfort of your own home. Here is the link to their [website](#).



“Tropical Moon” by Carol DeGuisseppi



“Levels” by Fiona Keyes



“Surf and Rays” by Eric Loken



“Dahlia” by Sally Loken

Learning Opportunities

[Lensbaby Conference](#). If you're into macro photography, you're likely familiar with or have heard of the Lensbaby family of lenses. Here's a chance to learn from some of the top-notch photographers who shoot with Lensbabies during a 3-day virtual conference December 8-10. And best of all, it's all **FREE!!**

Competition Tips and Techniques

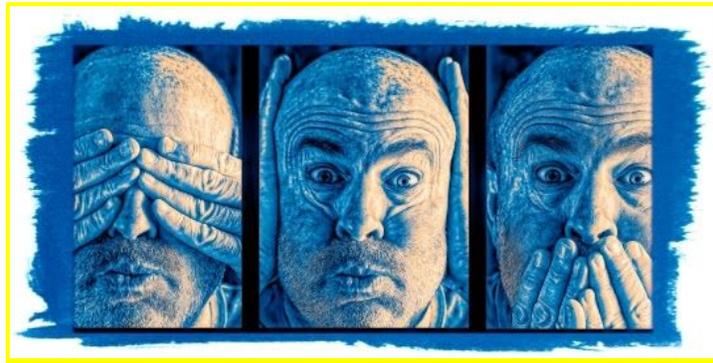
While there is no official competition event for December, here's your chance to submit your favorite **Holiday or Winter-themed** image. These images will be voted on by our membership at the Zoom Holiday Party on December 9. If you're not sure how to submit these images, [click here!](#)

Website Forums

Gina Apostolacus updated the forum with an offer of a few FREE camera bags that were donated to the club. And a new topic called "Selling Canon 600mm F/4 IS USM II (great price with LOTS of goodies)" has been created in the "Buy, Sell or Swap Equipment" forum by Mark Petry. Click [here](#) to go to the topic on the Chester County Camera Club website.

And check out all the other [CCCC Website Discussion Forums](#) - lots of topics and learning opportunities.

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



And the last laugh goes to...

“See No Evil, Hear No Evil, Speak No Evil”

Previous CCCC competition award-winning image by this month’s spotlight volunteer, Bob Friedman