

Using Filters

The November 11th meeting of the Grand Canyon Photography Club will feature a program on using filters by member John Newell. The program will begin at 7 p.m. at the Gmeiner Art & Cultural Center in Wellsboro, PA after a short business meeting.

The presentation on filters will cover the two filters that are the most useful in digital photography. These are the two that can't be replaced with post processing. John will also talk about how to select the right sizes and quality for your lenses, how to avoid disaster in mounting filters, how to use filters for some "off label" effects, and some Yankee ingenuity techniques.

John has been interested in photography for many years and began as a portrait photographer. Having worked predominantly with film, he presently is working on transitioning to digital.

The Grand Canyon Photography Club was established in 2001 by Art & Christine Heiny. The first meeting was held in January of that year and meetings are still held the second Tuesday of every month at the Gmeiner Art & Cultural Center in Wellsboro, PA. Meetings typically run from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Annual dues are \$20/year per individual, \$35 per family. Individuals may attend two meetings before they are asked to join.

Each month a program is given on some aspect of photography. Some past program topics: Smart Phone Photography, Architechtrual Photography, Composition, Lighting, Photography Ethics, Black and White, Portraiture, Post Processing and more. Programs are often presented by knowledgeable club members. Special presenters have included Wayne Palmer, Curt Weinhold, Ed Heaton, Tony Sweet, Art Becker, John Levandoski, and Jamie Konarski Davidson, to name a few. After a refreshment break, member images on a pre-determined topic are critiqued.



©John Newell

In This Issue

President's Message	page 2	Treasurer's Report, Club Reminders	page 5
Meeting Minutes	page 3	Composition Corner	pages 6
One Minute Musings	page 4	Programs, Themes	page 7
		Critique Images	pages 7-8



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I was encouraged to see a first-time critique image from one of our members last month. While our critiques are positive and meant to help our members improve their skills, it can still be daunting to put an image out there for others to comment on. As someone who has been the critic a few times, it isn't always easy being the person making the comments either.

In the club's early years, members brought in physical photos between 5x7 and 11x14 inches, and the evening's presenter was asked to critique them. As you can imagine, it was often hard to see the image for those sitting anywhere but the first two rows! After a few years the club purchased a digital projector and critique images were emailed in as they are now. A few years later a newer projector was purchased. Once we went digital, we stopped asking presenters to be the critic and had designated club members take over the role.

Even when I'm not the person standing up in front of the room, I often struggle with what to say about an image while I sit in the audience. I've given it some thought, and I think the two most important things to keep in mind when asked to comment on a photo are: be encouraging, and be specific. Starting out with positives sets the right tone. When you focus on the strengths of an image, it often makes the creator of the photo more receptive to the offered suggestions.

As for being specific, a phrase like "nice shot" is well-meant, but something like "the colors really pop" is more helpful.

There are a number of specific aspects of a photo to comment on.

1. Composition: leading lines, use of space, balance, framing
2. Lighting: quality, directions, use of shadow
3. Color: warm or cool, harmonious or constrasty
4. Depth of Field: sharpness, selective blur, bokeh
5. Story/Mood: emotions-calming or dramatic
6. Cropping: tighter, vertical or horizontal

I'm going to try to be a better commentor. The critique is an important aspect of our club meetings as we all learn from each other.

Learn, practice, and have fun! And comment!

Mia



©Mia Lisa Anderson



GCPC October 14, 2025 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by president Mia Lisa Anderson, and members welcomed visitor Kathy. This was the first meeting following the August picnic and the September guest speaker event.

Mia asked for a motion to approve the July minutes as they appeared in the newsletter. Dennis Stager so moved. The motion was seconded by Karen Micheltree. Motion carried. Gary Thompson presented the treasurer's report. Beginning balance: \$3,178.31, Income: new member fees \$35.00 Expenses: bank fee: \$3.00, guest speaker honorarium: \$400.00, speaker lodging: \$132.09. Ending balance: \$2,678.22

Motion to approve Treasurer's Report made by Missy Volino, seconded by Jim Storment. Report unanimously approved.

Under the guidance of Gary, the nominating committee prepared the following slate of officers. Prior to reading the slate, Gary welcomed two new member couples: Jim and Susan, and Bruce and Jo. Committee members Missy Volino and Tana Carpenter worked with Gary to develop the proposed slate. All nominees are confirmed to be in good standing. Proposed Slate of Officers and Appointed Positions are:

President: Missy Volino

Vice President: Brad Adams

Treasurer: Gary Thompson

Secretary: Tana Carpenter

Directors: Casey Volino and Karen Mitcheltree

Public Relations(appointed): Linda Stager

Website & Newsletter(appointed): Mia Lisa Anderson

Exhibits(appointed): To be determined

The slate will be published in the November newsletter. At that meeting, additional nominations from the floor will be accepted, followed by voting. New officers will assume their positions in January 2026.

A planning meeting is scheduled for Saturday, October 25, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in the back room at the Gmeiner. Members were encouraged to share ideas for programs or speakers for next year with Mia Lisa or any current board member before the 25th.

Exhibits Update

Shannon Davis is currently exhibiting at the Dean Center through November. Linda Stager will exhibit at the Dean Center in December. Karen is exhibiting at the Arise Café. Tana is scheduled for November, and Jesse Kendall for December. Susan Storment is now serving as President of the Wellsboro Art Club.

Motion to adjourn the business portion of the meeting at 7:08 PM made by Dennis, seconded by Bruce Bilder. Meeting adjourned

Respectfully submitted,

Missy Volino

Vice President



The Evolving Eye

As I've been out taking photos recently, this thought has come to mind several times, so I'll write about it. I often hashtag my photos #Iamalwaysinsidemycameralens; my musing this month reflects that hashtag in some ways.

The more I photograph, the more I realize my camera lens teaches me in many ways.

My camera doesn't just record what I see — it has changed how I see.

Each time I lift it, I'm not chasing a perfect image; I'm learning to pay attention.

And in return, my camera reflects me and how I see my world-- my way of seeing, my way of feeling. Light has become the language I speak.

My creative process hasn't been a straight line — it's been a rhythm of curiosity, frustration, and discovery.

Some days I make a dozen frames and keep none. Other days, one click feels like a conversation with the world itself.

That's the gift of photography — it has taught me that seeing is never finished. Every image I make is another way of saying, "I am always inside my camera lens" and "I am growing".



©Linda Stager



Club Reminders Critique Submissions

Please send critique submissions (or other images you'd like to submit for the newsletter) to Mia at:

mialisa1957@gmail.com. Follow the guidelines we have always used, i.e. 1024 or 2048 pixels on the long side and one submission per critique. Remember to put your name in the file name, e.g. anderson_tulips.

The Grand Canyon Photography Club

2025 Officers:

President: Mia Lisa Anderson

Vice President: Missy Volino

Treasurer: Gary Thompson

Recording Secretary:
Tana Carpenter

Corresponding Secretary:
Linda Stager

Directors:

2024-2025:

Brad Adams, John Newell

2025-2026:

Greg Caulkins, Will Slotter

Committee Chairpersons:

Newsletter: Mia Lisa Anderson

Membership: Gary Thompson

Exhibits: Open

Website: Mia Lisa Anderson

Publicity: Linda Stager

For more information, please
contact:

president@gcphotoclub.org

Treasurer's Report

Beginning Balance	\$2,678.22
Cash IN	
Dues	\$40.00
Cash OUT	
Bank Fee	\$3.00
Ending Balance	\$2,715.22
<i>Respectfully Submitted</i>	
<i>Gary Thompson, Treasurer</i>	



©Mia Lisa Anderson



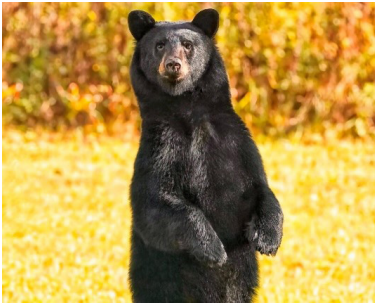
COMPOSITION
CORNER

by Linda Stager

The Power of What's Not There

In photography, we spend a lot of time thinking about what to include — the subject, the light, the story we want to tell. But just as important is what we choose to leave out. That's where negative space comes in.

Negative space is the area around your main subject — the quiet zones, the open sky, the sweep of water or wall that balances the scene. At first glance, it might seem empty, but that space is doing powerful work. It gives your subject room to breathe. It creates mood.



It lets the viewer rest their eyes before returning to the point of focus.

Think of it as silence in music — essential for rhythm, emotion, and contrast. Without it, everything would feel crowded and loud.

When you're composing, try this simple exercise: once you frame your shot, look at everything except your subject. What's happening in the space around it? Does that

space enhance or distract? Could a shift in angle or a step backward change the balance?

Negative space is stunning in minimalist scenes — a single tree against snow, a bird in flight across an empty sky, a lone figure at the edge of fog. But even in complex landscapes, a sense of openness can draw the viewer in.

As you photograph this month, experiment with space. Leave room for calm. Let simplicity do the talking. Often, the power of an image lies not in how much you show — but in how much you don't.



All Images©Linda Stager



GCPC 2025 Calendar of Events

Meetings are at 7 p.m. on the 2nd Tuesday of every month
at the Gmeiner Art & Cultural Center unless otherwise noted

Mini-Solo Shows at the Deane Center, Main Street, Wellsboro:

November: Shannon Davis

December: Linda Stager

Mini-Solo Shows at Arise Cafe, Central Ave., Wellsboro:

November: Karen Micheltree

December: Jesse Kendall

The Warehouse Theater: Various Members

*The position of exhibit coordinator has been filled
by Susan Storment*

Programs and Themes:

November 11, 2025: *Filters: Why, When, Which* presented by John Newell. Critique: *Color*.

December 9, 2025: Annual holiday party. Member slideshow of favorite images taken in 2025.

November Refreshments:

Snack: Diane Cobourn

Beverages: No one signed up

Shutter Speed Critique Images



©Brad Adams

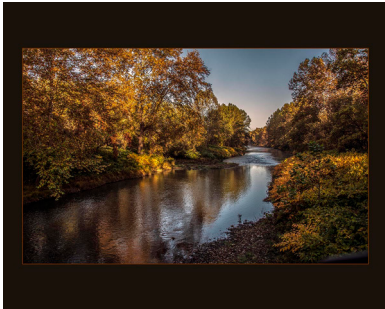


©Bob Bair

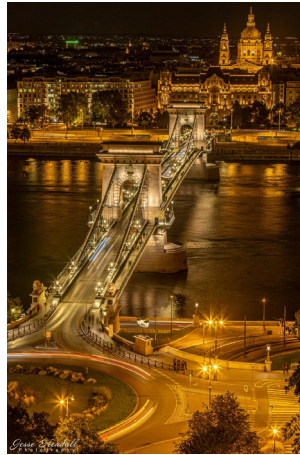


©Paul Bozzo

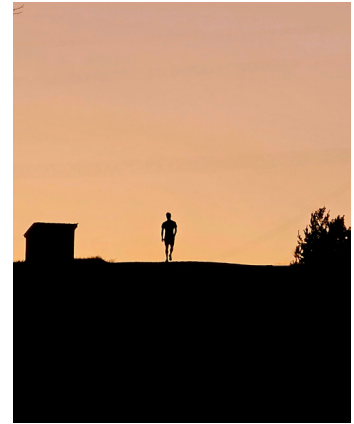
Shutter Speed Critique Images



©*Bruce Dart*



©*Jesse Kendall*



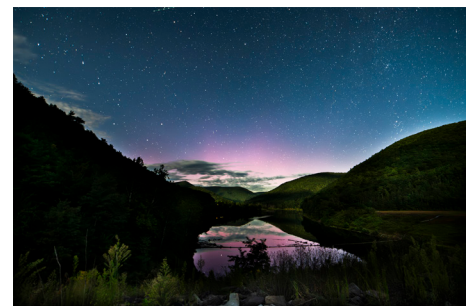
©*Michelle Lawrence*



©*Will Slotter*



©*Linda Stager*



©*Carole Troutman*