

Join Us for a Special Presentation

The Grand Canyon Photography Club is proud to host professional photographer Jamie Konarski Davidson for the Wednesday, September 17, 2025 program. Her presentation, "Exploring Simple", will begin at 7 p.m. in the Lobby of the HG Warehouse Theater in Wellsboro, PA. (***Please note this is not our regular meeting night nor location.***)

Jamie describes her program as follows: In a world filled with busy and clutter, it can be challenging to simplify a scene or subject to include just what's necessary to tell the story of what made us stop. It is an exercise in subtracting what doesn't belong or what doesn't add to why we stopped, and including only what matters for the specific image we're creating. Whether you seek simple in a landscape, portraits, still life or florals, the more you remove, the more you clarify and strengthen the image. In this program Jamie will provide some history of simplicity and minimalism in art & photography, approaches for seeing subjects differently, and share a variety of ways to remove visual distractions and create simple images.



©**Jamie Konarski Davidson**

Jamie Konarski Davidson is an award-winning outdoor & nature photographer with a passion for finding and capturing beauty in all places, from flowers and still life to landscapes, intimate scenes and ordinary places. Her images range from macro and abstracts to intimate, grand, and rural landscapes. She embraces an interpretive style in her work through techniques such as Lensbaby, infrared, long exposures, ICM, and multiple exposures in the field and creative approaches to interpret in post. As a photographer and visual artist, Jamie is open to experimenting and playing with new techniques.

Based in Greenville, NC, Jamie has been a presenter/instructor for Out of Chicago, NANPA, CNPA, PPSNYS, Mike Moats' Macro Photo Conference and more. She offers programs online and in person to camera clubs and organizations. Her location workshops on the East Coast through New Life Photos offer a wide range subjects and learning opportunities in beautiful places. Jamie's goal as an instructor and presenter is to educate, encourage and inspire people to grow in their photography skills with intention and discover their own visual voices.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I've talked before about the importance of planning your photo shoot: having your gear ready, knowing where you want to go and what you want to photograph. 95% of the time this is what you should do to get the best possible results. But what if you didn't plan? What if you took your camera and experimented? What if you tried something new?

Recently I took my phone down to the Green. I didn't have a plan or any expectations. I played with the Slow Shutter app and tried some Intentional Camera Movement. I used the Reeheld app and made some long exposures of Wynken, Blynken, and Nod. I included the sky in those because there were many big, white clouds moving through the blue sky, and I wanted to show the motion. I even played around with taking vertical panoramas. I had a great time. Not every image worked, but I definitely got some keepers.

A few weeks before that, I walked by my glass chess set and noticed the reflections on the surface of the ancient high-fi it rested on. I wondered what kind of image I would get if I put my phone upside down on a tripod. Then I wondered what would happen if I took the picture in portrait mode and changed the lighting to stage light in post. I got a neat image with reflections. All on the spur of the moment.

The moral of the story: sometimes it's okay to wing it.

Learn, practice, and have fun!

Mia



*All Images this page
©Mia Lisa Anderson*



GCPC July 8, 2025 Meeting Minutes

The July 8, 2025 meeting of the Grand Canyon Photography Club was called to order by President Mia Lisa Anderson. There were three new guests in attendance. Mia asked if there were any additions to the minutes from the May meeting as they appeared in the newsletter and if not, a motion to approve was needed. The motion was made by Missy Volino, seconded by Dennis Stager, and approved by the majority of the membership in attendance. The Treasurer's report was given by Treasurer Gary Thompson. We had a beginning balance of \$3,302.31 and an ending balance of \$3,299.31. A motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by Paul Bozzo, seconded by Gloria Schwab, and approved by the membership in attendance.

The first item of new business was the club's August picnic. In previous years, Paul Bozzo graciously reserved the venue and did the grilling for the club but is unable to do it this year. Upon discussion, Gloria Schwab volunteered to host the picnic at her home in Covington on August 12, 2025. Mia will send out directions to Gloria and John's address, along with further details about the picnic. Thank you Gloria and John for being the hostess and host this year!

Occasionally, the club has outings and there had been prior discussion about having a club outing at the Tioga County Fair in August. Each day, there are different events, as well as the usual daily items such as rides and animals, which would make for interesting subjects. Tuesday night, August 5th, is Senior Night. If anyone is interested in participating in the outing, please let Mia know. This is the week before the August meeting, which is the picnic.

Anyone who had participated in the club scavenger hunt at the June meeting and who has photos that they would like to share, please send them to Mia and she will at some point, put them in a slideshow for the membership.

Bruce Dart brought up the idea of having an outside speaker give a presentation to the club. Jamie Davidson of New Life Photos will be in the area on Wednesday September 17, 2025. Since the Gmeiner is unavailable that week, it will be held in the Warehouse Theater lobby. We are gathering more information from Bruce as to what all the costs will be to the club so that the board can approve the allocation of funds. There is no additional charge to the membership. More information will follow on this event.

With no new business, a motion to adjourn the business portion of the meeting was made by Tana Carpenter, seconded by Gloria Schwab, and approved by the majority of the membership in attendance.

Following the business portion of the meeting, a presentation on shutter speed titled "Speed and Stillness - Mastering Motion with Shutter Speed", was conducted by Linda Stager. Thank you, Linda for successfully tackling a subject which confounds many of us.

*Respectfully submitted,
Tana Carpenter
Recording Secretary*



Photography Workout

Did you ever think about what a workout it is to be a photographer? That's my musing this month.

As I think about it, it's not just standing still and clicking your camera's shutter button. It's climbing hills, sometimes with a heavy backpack, because the best views are "up there." It's crouching low to catch the right angle of light, stretching and twisting to frame the perfect shot. Sometimes it's holding your breath while balancing in a tricky spot or rushing ahead to catch the light before it disappears. It's strapping on crampons to navigate ice. It's wearing knee-high boots to ford streams.



©Linda Stager

And then there's our gear. My camera and lens can feel like lifting weights. It's heavy! Add a tripod, and it's even heavier!

The patience required while waiting in the cold, heat, or rain tests our endurance in its own way. I get hot in one season; I freeze in another. My muscles tighten up from sitting too still for too long.

After a day of shooting, my legs are sore, my arms are tired, and my body reminds me just how physical photography is. Several years ago, the weight of my camera's long lens sent me to physical therapy for shoulder troubles. I promised my physical therapist back then that I would always use a tripod after that. Have I? Nope, but I'm more careful than I used to be.

Here's what I think this month: it isn't only about seeing beauty, it's about moving for it, reaching for it, and sometimes sweating for it. It's creativity in motion, and yes, it's indeed a full-body workout. We need to take care of ourselves!



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	\$3,296.31
Cash IN	
2025 Dues	\$0.00
Cash OUT	
Bank Fee	\$3.00
Picnic Expenses	\$115.00
Ending Balance	\$3,178.31
<i>Respectfully Submitted</i>	
<i>Gary Thompson, Treasurer</i>	



View from our picnic venue©Mia Lisa Anderson



Self-Talk for Better Compositions

The other morning, I decided to take my long lens to one of our local lakes. I spent several hours there and found myself talking to myself throughout the experience. It was helpful. So this month, I'm going to suggest you do the same.

As I unloaded the car, I started a mental checklist: Camera: check! Batteries: check! Phone: check!

As I walked to the shoreline, I quietly snuck up to the water's edge, but promptly startled a shorebird. I have a couple of rules I keep for myself: don't scare the wildlife, and don't take butt shots. I promptly broke both of my rules as I sighed at my lack of attention and reeled off a few frames of the retreating bird.

It gave me a good chance, though, to check my settings as well as identify the bird. I then scanned the opposite shoreline for any wildlife. A great blue heron, a green heron, and a kingfisher were in the same vicinity. I set my sights on them and settled in to wait.



©Linda Stager

As they went about their daily activities, I would periodically take a photo. Now I talked through my settings. How is my exposure? Will my highlights be blown out since that heron looks pretty light in the bright sunlight? Is my shutter speed high enough in case of some sudden fast activity? How's my depth of field? If the kingfisher and the green heron are in the same area and close to one another, will both be in focus? What will I have to do to make that happen?

As the heron moved into position to fish, I thought about the "decisive moment". The frame that, in the end, best tells the story. I tensed as I waited in anticipation of the heron spearing a fish.

The self-talk continued: If that heron moves to the left a few feet, that will be a better photo.

As the heron flew across the lake towards me, I reeled off several more shots, watching constantly for background distractions and lighting. I knew some frames would be better than others. And I wanted to have enough choices to pick from the best.

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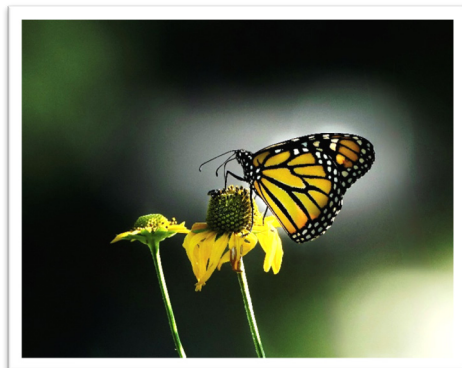
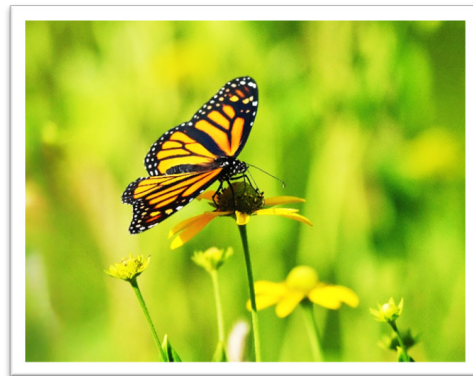
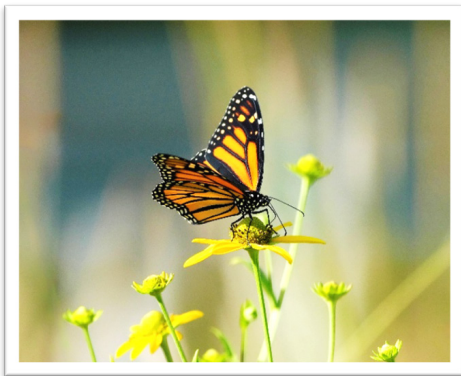
As I finally headed back to the car, I walked past a newly minted monarch butterfly just learning to flex its wings in the warm sunlight. I stopped to watch with renewed stamina.

The self-talk started again. Settings: check. Battery: check. I moved around looking for different lighting and backgrounds. Some frames were dark and moody, while others had a predominantly green background; some backgrounds varied from dense to sparse. Again, I started sorting out in my mind what "THE" frame was going to be. "What's the best composition I can make here?" was the recurring question I asked myself.

Satisfied with my morning's success, I reflected on how my self-talk did indeed help me stay focused on taking solid photos. I was a better photographer for it.

Try it sometime. You, too, can be a good coach for yourself.

P.S. Be sure you are a positive coach. Sometimes it's easy to sputter at yourself. But it's important to follow up those exasperated thoughts with a "You'll get it next time" or "Good job".



*Same butterfly, same
scene, different
backgrounds....which do
you like the best?*

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:

September: Karen Micheltree

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

September: Shannon Davis

The Warehouse Theater: Various Members

Programs and Themes:

September 9, 2025: NO MEETING

September 17, 2025. *Exploring Simple* with Jamie Konarski Davidson. Event will be held at the Warehouse Theater next to the Arise Cafe.

October 14, 2025: *Seeing Color* presented by Linda Stager: Critique: *Shutter Speed*.

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.

September Refreshments: None

The position of exhibit coordinator is currently open. If you are interested in taking it on, please contact Mia.

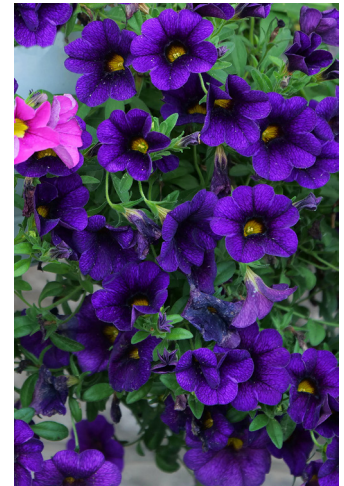
Flowers or Mushroom Critique Images



©Brad Adams



©Paul Bozzo



©Bob Bair

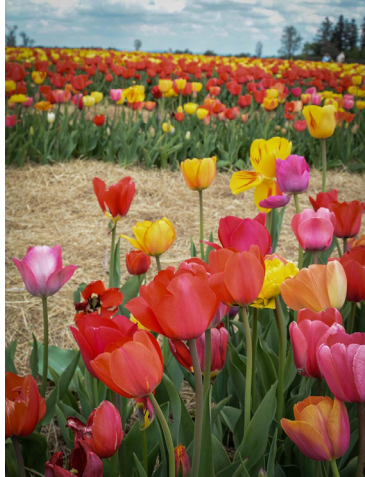


©Tana Carpenter

Flowers or Mushroom Critique Images



©Diane Cobourn



©Bruce Dart



©Greg Calkins



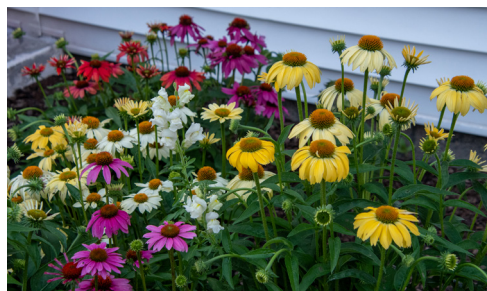
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