



Club Notes for November 2024

HOPING FOR THE START OF A HAPPY, HEALTHY START TO THE HOLIDAY SEASON!

In case you are so inclined, “Wildlights” at the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium begins November 22; the annual Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens “Conservatory Aglow” begins November 23; Alum Creek State Park Campgrounds has a 30 minute drive through holiday lights display (Butch Bando’s Fantasy of Lights) starting November 22; a new foot tour in downtown Columbus (Columbus Commons to Bicentennial Park down Town Street) called “Wanderlights” starts November 22; and, Dawes Arboretum lights begin December 6.

Club Members’ Presentations Show Depth of Members’ Expertise

The club utilized its home team to provide October’s education program, and the result was a home run. Five club members—Carrie Cartwright, Todd Elzey, Joyce Fasone, Cherry Williams, and Dick Wood—discussed their development as photographers and shared strategies they use to produce their unique works. The presentations highlighted the skills that members of our club have to offer. Following is a summary of their presentations.

Carrie Cartwright—Retouching Photos and Using AI

Carrie talked about her career and how she uses photography in her daily work. She has been a graphic designer for more than 20 years. When she started in photography, she shot film, and her first real job was shooting events for *Stars and Stripes* at the U.S. Army bases in Germany. After graduating from CCAD in 2002, Carrie landed a job with a commercial art studio where she retouched images for retail brands, including Frigidaire, Bath and Body Works, Victoria Secret, Dearfoams, Husqvana, Lowes, and Under Armour. Carrie went on to become a lead graphic designer for Justice, a tween brand. Today she works for Nationwide Children’s Hospital marketing team. She has had the pleasure

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of working with many of our area’s top retail photographers and continuously tries to improve her photographic skills.

In her presentation, Carrie shared examples of her commercial work. She also explained how she has used AI technology to solve a customer’s photography needs. She shared an historical image that was so low quality that it could not be used for a museum exhibit. The museum had hired two others to recreate the image but were unhappy with the end results. They wanted the image restored and stylized. Carrie described the steps she used in applying AI to restore portions of the image and then carefully illustrated the final image with those parts as her foundation.

Joyce Fasone—GLIMPSES

Joyce never took photographs until her first trip to Hawai’i twenty-some years ago. She always thought a camera would intrude on the memories she made. Her first photograph was of a rainbow over Kuai’i. Since then, Joyce has traveled to many placed around the world, both for pleasure and business. She is drawn to the beauty of nature and

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Members' Presentations (continued)

Architecture, the quirky and unusual, and especially the surroundings that we walk through every day without really seeing. The images she shared she calls GLIMPSES because, as she puts it: she sees, she likes, she shoots—not a lot of thought, just emotion and reaction. GLIMPSES are interesting things that might be gone the next time you pass by.

Joyce tends to think in terms of projects—her career was in IT—because it provides her with a way to structure her images. Since each project has a beginning and an end, she can take a break without guilt, knowing that she actually is preparing for the next project. One day, she was looking at an iris in her garden, really looking into its interior, and it was beautiful. This led her to look inside every flower she came across and shooting as closely as she could. This turned into a project she called “GLIMPSES Into the Hearts of Flowers.” All of Joyce’s photographs are her own original digital images, taken over the years, first with a Fuji FinePix camera, then a Blackberry, and now with various one-camera models of iPhones. With minimal editing (cropping, no Photoshop), you can see what she caught a glimpse of and was interesting to her. She hopes you think so, too.

Dick Woods, PPA—Architectural Photography
Dick’s education and work experience have contributed greatly to how he sees and photographs structures. He earned an associate degree in construction engineering from SUNY and a Bachelor of Architectural Design from Texas Tech University. At Texas Tech, Dick took courses in art, drawing, and photography. After graduation, he worked for architect firms using various media to produce architectural renderings to show the client how a building might finally look and the materials that would be used. This required Dick to produce perspectives using plans and elevations, as computers could not do this at the time. In doing this, he developed a rich knowledge of how perspective works and how to manipulate

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it to one’s advantage when photographing a building.

Dick prefers a heroic look of a structure to add to the drama of the image—this was demonstrated in the photos he presented. The equipment he primarily uses is a medium format Fujifilm GFX100 with either a 23mm or 17mm wide-angle lens. On very important piece of equipment, besides a tripod, is Calibrite ColorChecker Passport. He works with designers and must have the correct color as he photographs under various lighting conditions and clients insist on color accuracy. Dick makes color profiles for each shot, along with the use of a grey card to assure correct color temperature. While it is laborious, he is paid for producing accurate renditions. Dick shares examples of his work.

Cherry Williams—How to Get a Decent Picture of Man’s Best Friend

Cherry’s tips for pet photography:

1. Have an assistant! This is the most critical piece of advice. This must be someone who actually likes dogs and can follow your directions.
2. Choose a safe environment for the dog—either fenced or keep the dog on a leash.
3. Make the dog comfortable in the situation. First, keep your distance and use a medium telephoto lens so you don’t invade the dog’s space. Second, never force the dog to do anything! Use treats and patience.
4. Encourage cooperation by using items the dog likes—treats (what the owner brings), toys, squeaky noise makers.

Tips on catching the shot include:

- a. Position dogs to face the light.
- b. If the dog knows tricks, show them.

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Members' Presentations (continued)

- c. Have the assistant lavishly use treats and reward the dog after each correct act.
- d. Use a skinny collar and leash, holding it straight up from the dog to gently hold them in position—later, you can Photoshop the leash out of the image.
- e. Remain calm and upbeat—if the dog is unable to give you the pose you want after several attempts, move on to the next idea.

Cherry's two life hobbies have always been dogs and photography. When she retired from her nursing career, she had the perfect opportunity to combine the two by using her connections with agility and confirmation "dog people" and a random educational Westbridge presentation by a local studio that rented space. Everlasting thanks to Westbridge for that spark!

Todd Elzey—Photographing Amateur Sports and Challenges of Vision Impairment

Todd discussed how he prepares to photograph a variety of amateur sporting events and the different strategies he uses to capture impactful photos. One of Todd's tips is about positioning yourself strategically—get close to the action, with attention to the background, preferably a clear, clean background. Next, Todd recommends using a fast shutter speed to freeze the movement. He tries to anticipate key moments in an event, then shoots in "burst" mode to increase the odds of an impactful shot. Todd also shoots from a variety of angles and attempts to capture both the actions and emotions of the athletes.

Club Competition Notes

October's monthly competition was themed "Taken at Home" (within 25' of home) and judged by the club's frequent contributor, Bobbie Atlas. Club members had a double exposure (see what we did there?), as Bobbie was unexpectedly unavailable on the scheduled competition night. She presented two teaching videos on the scheduled evening and judged on the rescheduled Monday evening.

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If you need links to the presentations, they are:

<https://vimeo.com/71595387> and <https://vimeo.com/296476568>. As always, our competition results appear on the club website. As the membership year progresses you will be able to view monthly points awarded and the season's cumulative points.

November digital images are due by 10pm on Monday November 11th. Our scheduled judge for this "open" themed competition is Erica Manning <https://ericamanningphoto.com/>.

Note: The list of judges for the remainder of our 2024-2025 season appears on the club website.

Educational Programs

Our Educational Committee has completed its schedule of informative programs for club members' pleasure and edification. These generally occur on the first Monday of each month (September-May).

On November 4th, astrophotographer Isaac Cruz of the Columbus Astronomical Society discussed astro photography without the use of telescopes. He described the star tracker system that he uses to adjust for earth rotation and obtain clear stacked photos. He also shared a number of helpful tips and showed some amazing images.

In December (the 2nd) our November judge Erica Manning is returning to talk about creative lighting. See her website at <https://ericamanningphoto.com/>.

An additional non-meeting educational opportunity for club members had Alan Brown delivering a zoom presentation
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Educational Programs (continued)

about Intentional Camera Movement/ICM (December 16th). Donna Winters provided us with a link to Alan's recorded presentation:

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/#inbox/FMfcgzQXJkcMnGwbjJHmhnKXINHwxQCT?projector=1>

Another non-meeting zoom presentation educational opportunity has been arranged by Skip Kremer. **Annalise Kaylor** will explore "Finding Your Visual Voice" on **December 11th at 7pm**. Annalise aims to help us discover and define our own styles of photography—going beyond technical terms and trends, to begin looking at what makes our work our own and reflecting on what our work says about ourselves and what we hope to communicate with our images. Annalise's website displays a few of her photographic accomplishments in wildlife, portrait, photojournalism, and environmental conservation photography. She served as the official photographer for Habitat for Humanity, has photographed many concerts and events, captured news images as a photojournalist, and shares travel photos. If your interests lie in wildlife photography (especially birds), you are likely to enjoy the images on her website and might want to take a peek at the photo workshops she hosts. (<https://www.annalisekaylor.com/>). Annalise has frequently been an invited presenter at national photographic conference, as well. The zoom link will be circulated closer to the presentation date.

Additional Opportunities

*Announcing a New Club Interest Group:
Photo Feedback Meets November 13th*

The club has started a special interest group, Photo Feedback, which will meet for the first time Wednesday November 13th from 7-8:30pm in the Olentangy Meeting Room at Worthington Park Library located at 1389 Worthington Centre Drive. The group is designed for club members who seek constructive feedback without submitting print images for club competitions or simply seek an additional way to share their images. It is open to club members at all skill levels. To register for the meeting, let John Butterfield know by Tuesday November 12th (jbutter@columbus.rr.com).

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Additional Opportunities (continued)

Note: The feedback group is limited to 15 participants at each session. Each participant brings one print to present for constructive feedback from fellow club members. The second session is scheduled for Thursday January 9th from 7-8:30 in Meeting Room B of the Westerville Public Library located at 126 S. State Street.

Libby Rosent shared that David Day will be presenting a Camversation (zoom webinar) called Studio ICM: A Different Approach to Creating Abstract Images on November 18th at 4pm Eastern time zone. Tickets are available for £5 (about \$6.50 USD). The link for information and registration is:

<https://www.camversation.co.uk/event-details/studio-icm-a-different-approach-to-creating-abstract-images-with-david-day>

Charles Bowdle shared that a presentation by Claire Wiedman on The History of Pinhole Photography will take place on Friday November 8th 4:30-5:30pm at the Upper Arlington Public Library Tremont Road Branch (in the lower-level Friends Theater). Registration is requested using the Upper Arlington Library website.

A group of club members meet for dinner prior to the Monday meetings. Connect with Jim Urzykowski to find out where the next meet-up will take place and let him know so they can reserve a seat. Jim can be texted at 614-935-8703.

Special Event Notes

Westbridge Camera Club 2024 Holiday Party is scheduled for **TUESDAY December 10th from 6:30-8:30pm**. Dick Woods has arranged the location at Heritage Condominiums

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Special Events Notes (continued)

located at 123 Lafayette Dr., Westerville. The club will provide smoked brisket; everyone is requested to bring (1) your own beverage and (2) a potluck appetizer, side dish, or dessert to share. Optionally, if you would enjoy participating in the white elephant gift exchange, bring a wrapped gift at or under \$10 value (no gag gifts, please). Members are invited to bring a guest. Tonay Sekerak is coordinating the reservations—please RSVP at tsekerak@yahoo.com or (614)893-0731 before December 4th and include how many will be attending. Volunteers to help cleanup are welcome (we must vacate by 9pm).

Member News & Updates

Photo Calendar Contest Award Recipients Announced

The winners and honorable mentions of the Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging (COAAA) photo calendar contest were recently announced. Congratulations to three Westbridge Camera Club members. Pat Bendick's entry was selected for the month of April and Sue Day's was chosen for July. Linda Alvarado's entry received recognition with an honorable mention.

Pat's photo of cherry blossom trees is her seventh recognition in the calendar contest since 2017, including two winners in 2018, one in 2022, and this year. She took the photo at Goodale Park in April using her iPhone 11.

Sue is a first-time winner in the contest. Her photo of downtown Columbus at dusk was taken in August 2020 using a four-second exposure, ISO400, and f10 on her Canon 80D with an EF-S 24mm f2.8 lens. Sue took the photo during an outing with a group learning how to do an HDR panorama merge, practicing the method downtown at sundown. After taking several images for the panorama, it got to the "blue" hour leading her to put on her widest lens and shoot the winning image. Sue found that HDR panoramas are good, but did not meet the aspect ratio for a calendar.

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Linda's photo of a church in German Village was taken in December 2018. She took the shot with a Nikon D7200 and 29mm, for 1/25th of a second at f3.8 and ISO set at 1000. She was a contest winner in 2022 and has had several other images published in the calendar over the years.

The calendar features a winning monthly photograph taken by photographers aged 50+ and advertisers of interest to older adults. Free, full-color 2025 calendars will be distributed to central Ohio senior and community centers during November 2024. Photographers entering the contest must live in one of the eight counties served by COAAA (Delaware, Fairfield, Fayette, Franklin, Licking, Madison, Pickaway, or Union).

Carrie Cartwright's Photograph on Display in ODNR Exhibit

Club member Carrie Cartwright had a photograph accepted for the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) first art exhibit at Mohican State Park. Her image is of Wolf Creek Grist Mill taken in 2023. The juried exhibition opened Friday November 1st and remains through Friday January 3rd, 2025 at the park lodge and conference center, 1098 County Road 3006 in Perrysville, Ohio. This exhibition features works of art by Ohio folk and traditional artists. "Traditional arts" are part of the cultural heritage of a people whose members share a common ethnic heritage, language, religion, occupation, or geographic region.



Member News (continued)

This portion of the newsletter is reserved for announcements related to specific club members—we wish to acknowledge one another's successes and achievements, as well as other significant events.

Please submit items to one of the Communication Committee members (Audrey.begun@gmail.com or jbutter@columbus.rr.com) and/or send an email message to the club membership if you wish. Note: While the newsletters are distributed from Audrey's email address, John Butterfield (our club vice-president) is a strong contributor to the contents—he vigorously tracks down information and creatively composes news.

We are encouraging members to submit ideas for future newsletter pieces that might be of interest to the club membership!