



Club Notes for August-September 2025

LET THE CLUB 2025-26 SEASON BEGIN!

It's time to join or renew our memberships—**September 8th is the deadline for being included in our September monthly competition.** October 31st is the renewal deadline to maintain your membership—the slate is cleaned November 1st. To renew, use your personal login id and password on the club website (https://westbridgecc.com/aws/WBCC/pt/sp/home_page) and look under the Members drop down menu (not Membership). Member dues are a mere \$40 for “local” talent who plan to attend meetings in person and \$25 for “digital only” membership. Dues can be paid online by PayPal or credit card; alternatively, a check written to Westbridge Camera Club can be brought to Rick Bartelt at a club meeting or mailed to him at 2005 Palouse Dr, London, OH 43140. Remember that membership dues must be paid before club competition eligibility is conferred and only one “guest” meeting visit is offered before dues are paid. Beginning this year, your club registration id number will be used along with image titles in your file names for digital competition submissions instead of your name (see Competition News below). You can locate your Member # by logging in to your club member personal account—it appears on the left side bar. We kick off our season with our first **meeting on Monday, September 8th** (not September 1st) from 7-9pm at Midwest Photo.

Westbridge Camera Club Leadership Team

The club is served by a host of volunteers, as dictated by the club constitution and bylaws. The roster for our 2025-26 season is as follows:

President: Frank Begun (begunfrank@gmail.com)

Vice-President: Mark Garrett

Secretary: Linda Ulasiewicz

Treasurer: Rick Bartelt

Members-At-Large: Joyce Fasone, Jon Harvey,
Jim Urzykowski

Education Committee: Carrie Cartwright, Greg
Chatfield

Competition Committee: Mark Collins, Rob
Formantelli, Mark Fohl

Membership Committee: Cherry Williams, Sharon
Telatnik, Vicki Warren

Technical Coordinator: Carol Shurlow

Webmaster: Dale Berlin

Communications Coordinators: Audrey Begun,
John Butterfield

Liaison/Special Projects: Jim Urzykowski

Exhibitions: John Butterfield, Steve Organ

FaceBook: Tonya Sekarik, Dick Wood

Contact information for any club member is
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located on the club website in the Members section, requiring your personal login and password. The left side bar has “Find a Member” section where you fill in the last name.

September Education Program

The education committee, aka “entertainment,” arranges our monthly “learning” programs hosted on the first Monday of each month during the club season. For September (the 8th this year since the 1st is Labor Day). They have arranged with our own club member, Mark Fohl, to present “Viva la France.” Mark has been a Westbridge member since 1985 (as well as a past-President, competitions committee member, and otherwise strong contributor). Mark indicated that the presentation provides “lots of details and little known, but interesting, parts of Paris.”

Club Competition News

September is an “open” theme competition month with digital submissions due before 10pm on Monday September 8th for the September 15th competition (bring prints that night). The club competition committee has arranged with Christopher Yates to judge this month’s competition. Yates serves as Director of the Richard Ross Art Museum at Ohio Wesleyan University. Among his degrees is an earned M.F.A. from the State University of New York at Stony Brook and a BFA from Columbus College of Art & Design. Prior to his appointment at the Richard Ross Art Museum, Christopher Yates served on the faculty at the Columbus College of Art & Design and at Ohio Wesleyan, as well as eight years with The Gund (Kenyon College’s museum of contemporary art). He describes himself as an artist, critic, and educator and his artwork as investigating “ideas of chance, fate, and cyclical time.” You can learn more about his work at <https://christopheryatesart.com/> ,

Change In Print Competition Structure

As previously announced, the first major change in competitions is being pilot tested this year. The change relates to the color print and monochrome print competition categories. In the past, everyone competed together in these two categories. Beginning with the September competition members will self-select into one of the following levels for PRINT competition: either the “prints” level or the “advanced prints” level. The level selected for your first entries will determine your level for the competition season. “Prints” level is intended for newer and/or less experienced members building their skills in print presentation. “Advanced prints” level is for members who have demonstrated a high level of craftsmanship in printing and often utilize specialty papers or advanced printing techniques. Regardless of whether you self-place into “prints” or “advanced prints” you may still submit up to 4 printed images (up to 2 color and up to 2 monochrome).

Print images should be at least 8” on the shortest dimension, largest dimension of matt or mount should not exceed 24”, they must be matted or mounted without frames or glass, should have no

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personal identifiers on the front, and on the back you should clearly print your name, the image title, and a directional arrow for how it should be displayed.

Pro tip #1: the competition team has created a template for producing these, just be sure they are firmly affixed to your images so that (1) your image remains identifiable and (2) no adhesive will damage a print stacked underneath yours. When you arrive, place each of your images in the appropriate labeled bin: print monochrome, print color, advanced print monochrome, or advanced print color.

Pro tip #2: Dues paying club members are eligible for a discount on printing at Midwest Photo—only one perk of club membership!

Digital Image Competition Change

Digital image submissions are still uploaded in Zenfolio using the club generic login (not your personal login) at <https://westbridge.zenfolio.com> . Alternatively, they can be emailed to Carol Shurlow for uploading at shurlowc751@gmail.com. Digital images must be in JPEG (JPG) format with a maximum size of 2400 pixels on longest side.

The digital file naming convention is the second big change for this year’s competitions, with the aim of improving the incognito nature of our submissions. Each file name should begin with your member# followed by image title and .jpg. For example, 1007007-the best image ever.jpg is the correct format. Maker names are no longer included in the file names. As always, no copyright or signature with identifiers should appear on the digital image—copyright information is absolutely encouraged in the embedded file information.

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<i>(Digital Competition continued)</i>	<i>(Photo Feedback continued)</i>
<p>As for level of digital competition, each member self-selects their digital competition level as novice/beginner, intermediate/advanced, or master. The exception to this rule is that members who have been in the top 10% of their level for two consecutive years MUST advance to the next level. Choose carefully because you will need to stick to that level for the remainder of the year.</p> <p>2025-26 COMPETITION THEMES REVISED Between the last newsletter and this, there have been a couple of modifications to the competition themes and schedule. According to the club website, the current themes are as follows:</p> <p>September 15th -Open October 20th -Power November 17th -Open December 15th -Profound Isolation January 19th -Taken in 2025 February 16th -Open March 16th -Shiny Objects April 20th -Portraits "In the Style Of" *** (***)see notes below) May-Club Annual Salon</p> <p>***The title of your images this month will include the name of the photographer or artist you are emulating with your image. The competitions link in our club website offers a variety of suggestions, not restrictions, as to who you might think about with this style-informed competition theme. (We are no longer limited to those suggested in the earlier notices.)</p> <p>Photo Feedback Interest Group John Butterfield is once again hosting a photo feedback interest group for club members this year. The first session is scheduled for Thursday August 21st from 7-8:30pm at the Worthington Park Library in the Olentangy Meeting Room (1389 Worthington Centre Drive, Worthington OH). Interested members should register with John at jbutter47@gmail.com before noon on Wednesday August 20th. Photo Feedback provides members with a relaxed atmosphere for receiving and delivering constructive feedback on one another's print or digital images. We tap into the</p> <p><i>(continued in next column)</i></p>	<p>expertise and experiences of fellow club members in these sessions. The group is open to all skill levels with each session limited to 15 participants. Each participant may present up to 2 images, digital or print, and shares the stories behind their images along with details of creating the images; the group provides feedback. Note that many of the shared images have subsequently received recognition in the club competitions.</p> <p>Member News Congratulations to Cherry Williams whose image "Great Hair is Essential" was recently named a finalist in the HOWL–Art of Dogs International-Juried Art Exhibition of Wild Heart Gallery. Check out Cherry's finalist-awarded photograph and other recognized works at: https://222.wildheartgallery.com/post/howl-the-art-of-dogs-2025-international-juried-art-exhibition . Wild Heart Gallery is a Coachella Valley (CA)-based virtual art gallery founded in 2022. The gallery runs monthly themed online juried art exhibitions that are open to artists aged 18 or older working in various mediums and genres at any stage of their career. The goal of this virtual gallery is to promote the work of wildlife artists and artists who incorporate animals into their artwork. The gallery is currently accepting entries in the WINGS 2025, International Art Competition. Deadline for entries is September 20. To submit animal-themed art and photography that has to do with wings or flight, go to: https://4th-annual-wings.artcall.org .</p> <p>The Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging (COAA) is accepting entries for its annual calendar photo contest. It's free and open to photographers age 50 and older who live in the eight counties served by COAAA (Delaware, Fairfield,</p> <p><i>(continued on next page)</i></p>

<p style="text-align: center;"><i>(Member News continued)</i></p> <p>Fayette, Franklin, Licking, Madison, Pickaway or Union) to submit photos from these eight counties. The entry deadline is September 2. Photos must be in color and in horizontal (landscape) orientation with image resolution sharp enough (300 dpi or higher) for enlargement to fit on a month of the calendar (11"wide x 8-1/2" tall). Maximum number of entries per photographer is five photos. For the 2026 Calendar Photo Contest entry form, go to: https://www.coaaa.org/cms/images/2026_Calendar/Calendar_Contest_Entry_Form_2026.pdf . Over the years, Westbridge has had its share of winners, including: Linda Alvarado, Sharon Andrews, Pat Bendick, John Butterfield, Marcia Colucci, Sue Day, Philip Edelsberg, Phyllis Hollifield, Angela Scavo-Manno, Brenda Turner and Cherry Willaims. Several members have been multi-year winners. Sue Day and Pat Bendick were winners in 2025. Free, full-color 2026 calendars will be distributed to central Ohio senior and community centers in November 2025.</p> <p>Westbridge Camera Club members were well represented at the Ohio State Fair Fine Arts Exhibit this year (July-August 2025). In the Professional Division, Mark Fohl (<i>Take My Picture</i>), Paul Wilbur (<i>Columbus Homes*</i>), and Dick Wood (<i>Westside Stairs</i>) all exhibited. Paul was the recipient of an Ohio Arts Council Special Purchase Award—his photograph will hang in the OAC offices! In the Amateur Division, John Butterfield had 4 images (<i>My Friend Bonnie</i>, <i>A Good Day's Catch</i>, <i>Making Music</i>, and <i>Old Stogy</i>); <i>A Good Day's Catch</i> received one of three Juror's Awards (with a \$400 prize). Also exhibiting in this category were Carrie Cartwright (<i>Return To My Tree</i>) and Molly Selan (<i>Stormy Beach</i>). Congratulations to these 6 club members! Their works were selected into the juried fair from among over 1,000 submitted pieces in many modalities, entered by more than 400 artists. In all, 360 artworks were exhibited this year.</p> <p>Club Newsletters Our club newsletters are developed by the Communications team based on information shared by club members. Please send information to Audrey Begun (audrey.begun@gmail.com) and</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>(continued in next column)</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>(Club Newsletter continued)</i></p> <p>John Butterfield (jbutter47@gmail.com . Information in its raw form—Audrey and John will write it up. An information or news piece you wish to draft, Audrey and John will include (perhaps with some edits and formatting) and be thankful for you writing it up.</p> <p>We are always on the hunt for news that will interest club members. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • news about members' accomplishments • interesting polling questions that we can ask and then produce the polling results • stories that help photographers improve their techniques or expand their repertoire • news about upcoming events, presentation, and exhibits • group "shoots" being arranged • other ideas, no matter how "baked" they are
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