



# THE IMAGE

January 2022  
Winter Issue

## View From the Boardroom

*By Maryann Flick*

Digital cameras have come a long way in the last 25 years. It is true that all gear is not created equal. The quality of cameras and lenses varies a lot even within one brand. The companies who make them are constantly competing to offer the next greatest feature. One may have the best focus system or the best dynamic range or the best noise reduction or whatever. And we pay a pretty penny for them. But is any one brand better than the other? There are photographers that will insist a certain brand is the only one to use. I am glad we don't have gear-centric members like this in CCC. The best camera or lens for you is the one with the features you need at the price you can afford. Some years ago I watched a short video, probably on YouTube, that showed two pro photographers each given a toy camera and told to go out for a day and shoot with it. They came back with amazing images! Looking back at my own work I found some excellent images made with my first DSLR from 2007 that had fewer megapixels and fewer features than what I use now and was not one of the popular brands at the time. Yes, the latest, greatest features can help you make better images if you understand how to use them but they won't make you a better photographer. Neither will shooting with a particular brand. Percy W. Harris (Honorary Fellow of the Royal Photographic Society in the 50's) said "Skill in photography is acquired by practice and not by purchase." Three things make great images; what's in front of the camera, the camera and the photographer behind the camera; the camera make and model have the least role. One of the worst things to say to a photographer is "You must have a great camera to get such an awesome photo." Remember, judges award points to the image, not the camera that made it.

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*“To know ahead of time what you’re looking for means you’re then only photographing your own preconceptions, which is very limiting, and often false.” .... Dorothea Lange*

#### OFFICERS

President	
Maryann Flick	860-304-5693
Vice President	
Cynthia Thibault	860-267-0886
Secretary	
Sue Frechette	860-663-1372
Treasurer	
Anne Mele	860-205-1846
Past President	
Archie Stone	203-245-2381

#### COMMITTEES

Exhibits	
Allison Maltese	203-458-7916
& Jeannine Smith	
Hospitality	
Janet Rathbun	203-484-2262
Membership	
Dave Rathbun	203-484-2262
Newsletter	
Sue Frechette	860-663-1372
Programs	
Mark Janke	203-457-1890
Publicity	
Cynthia Thibault	860-267-0886
& Sue Frechette	
Digital Image Technology	
Louis Secki	203-804-7479
Webmaster	
Rob Nardino	203-318-0831
Activities	
Paula Chabot	860-399-5414

## 2022 MEETING SCHEDULE

- January 5, 2022—Speaker David Long: Winter Landscape Photography
- January 19, 2022—Print Critique Meeting Postponed—Ian Plant Webinar
- February 2, 2022— Speaker Lewis Katz: The Art of Black and White Photography
- February 16, 2022—Critique Meeting
- March 2, 2022—Mark Janke Presentation on creating a slide show
- March 16, 2022—40 Slide Review
- April 6, 2022—CCC Competition
- April 20, 2022—Sue Frechette Program on Grand Teton Winter Workshop
- May 4, 2022—Senior Center Spring Show Opening
- May 18, 2022—Review of annual club project
- June 1, 2022—Annual Business Meeting; potluck dinner

## 2022 DEADLINES

- February 4, 2022—Critique images sent to Louis at [ccc.images@gmail.com](mailto:ccc.images@gmail.com)
- March 19, 2022—Take down date at Connecticut Hospice; during open hours
- April 1, 2022—Competition photos sent to Louis at [ccc.images@gmail.com](mailto:ccc.images@gmail.com)
- April 25, 2022—Hang for Senior Center Spring Show
- May 13, 2022—Annual Club Project images sent to Louis at [ccc.images@gmail.com](mailto:ccc.images@gmail.com)
- June 3-6, 2022—Tentative take down dates for Senior Center Show

## ANNUAL CCC PROJECTS FOR 2021-2022

For the upcoming 2021-2022 season the board has come up with two different annual projects. Members may consider doing just one or both projects. "My Town" is a fun project that offers members a chance to explore the uniqueness of ordinary things that can be found in any town. Our members reside in thirteen different area towns. The following list represents places that are in most towns. Members are asked to take pictures of some or all of the things on this list in your own town. Consider taking photos of the same place in different seasons.

1. House of Worship
2. Store
3. Restaurant
4. Tree
5. Town Green
6. Street Corner
7. Big House
8. Little House
9. Water (Lake, Pond, River, Shore)
10. Statue
11. Town Hall
12. School
13. Library
14. Post Office
15. Fire or Police Station
16. Garden
17. Playground
18. Historic Site
19. Industry
20. Sign
21. Photographer's Personal Choice

The second project for members to try is a team project. Members will choose to work with another member of the club on a mutually agreed upon area of interest. The team may do shoots together or separately but will combine their work at some during the year and present it to the membership. The project may be worked on for only a few months or throughout the year. The idea is to pick a topic or photography area where you want to improve your skills. Teams will combine their work and present it to the club membership at some time during the year.

### NEW ANNUAL PROJECT FOR 2021-2022

There are two themes for our 2021-2022 Annual Project. You may choose to do one of these ideas or both. The first theme is titled "My Town." Our members reside in 13 towns. A list of places or things that each town contains has been created. Your assignment is to take pictures of some or all of these items in your town. More details are provided on this page.

The second annual project choice is titled "Members Choice." Two club members team up and collaborate on a shared project that can last a few months or the full year. The team will determine areas of mutual interest based on improving skills. See section on this page for more info.

### FLICKR

Our club has a Flickr web site. Whenever you have an image that you'd would like to share with the club, consider adding it to the Flickr site. If you are not familiar with our Flickr site, here is the link.

<https://www.flickr.com/groups/coastalcameraclub/>

We look forward to seeing your images.

### MEMBERSHIP DUES

If you have not yet paid your dues but intend to be a member this year, please pay your dues as soon as possible. After January 20th the dues for the remaining half year is \$12.50. Send it to our treasurer, Anne Mele.

## RESOURCES AND UPCOMING EVENTS

**Article About ‘Crop Factor’.** Dave Rathbun provided this link to a very good article on the topic of crop factor. The website has many informative articles and is a great resource for information on a variety of photography topics. To see the Crop Factor article **Go to <https://photographylife.com/what-is-crop-factor>**

**Ian Plant Webinar ‘Creative Landscape Photography Techniques’.** For anyone who missed the the program we had on January 19th, it can be viewed at **[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_nK9uNKQSGU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_nK9uNKQSGU)**

**Connecticut College Arboretum.** The Arboretum is open to visitors this fall and provides ample photography opportunities. Go to **<https://www.conncoll.edu/the-arboretum/>** for more information.

**Classes and Meetups: Milford Photo.** Many classes and meetups scheduled throughout the summer offered at Milford Photo. For more information go to **<https://www.milfordphoto.com/>**

**Workshops and Events, Hunts Photo.** Many in-person and online classes and events scheduled throughout the fall and winter offered at Hunts Photo. For more information go **<https://edu.huntsphoto.com>**

## TIDBIT 38: WHITE BALANCE

*By Archie Stone*

For those of you who have wondered what all the different white balance (wb) settings are and mean, here is a short tutorial.

The website [www.photographylife.com](http://www.photographylife.com) defines wb as follows, “white balance in digital photography means **adjusting colors so that the image looks more natural**. We go through the process of adjusting colors to primarily get rid of color casts, in order to try to resemble the colors in our images with reality”. I would add ‘or the color you want it to be’.

In the old days we would adjust our film temperature using different color filters. As an aside, I still have all my filters as they can make some crazy color photographs. With today’s digital cameras, they all contain wb settings and most also have custom and/or a kelvin setting that lets you select a specific color temperature measured in degrees kelvin. At this point I am not going to discuss custom settings other than to say that the lower the number the warmer the color, the higher therefore is cooler with about 5,000 kelvin being the middle.

So why do we need to know about wb? Why can’t I set my camera to Auto wb and let it pick the best one? If you want to have total control over your camera and the resulting image file, Auto wb will not always pick the best color balance.

For example, let’s say you wake up on the beach to a beautiful sunrise or in the evening a beautiful multicolored sunset. Auto wb will try and remove some or most of the color as it tries to make a daylight image. According to the engineers who wrote the program, daylight should be about 5,000 kelvin or cool white, while sunrises and sunsets range below 3,200 kelvin. Another example is a bright sunny day, again about 5,000 kelvin, but you don’t want the image to be that cool. You have two choices, custom or kelvin wb or do what I do which is to use a wb setting other than awb (Auto wb). Flash, shade and overcast will warm the image up. One has a light-yellow cast, one a yellow cast and the other an orange cast. Go out one day and evening and test them all out. In fact, shoot one in each of the modes and see which one you like best. I have also used some of the other wb settings to put a funky color on the image such as the fluorescent setting.

If you are shooting in JPEG then I strongly suggest, especially for critical images, that you get out of Awb and set the wb for the particular scene. Most cameras have the following settings:

- Tungsten, for shooting indoors with incandescent bulbs. It puts a cool or blue cast on the image. The dial or led has a light bulb symbol.
- Fluorescent, for shooting under fluorescent light which uses a cool (possibly green) cast and has a fluorescent light on the symbol.
- Daylight, which sets the lighting to the cool color of daylight. It is a blue cast and the symbol is a sun burst.
- Cloudy, sets a warm tone and has a cloud for a symbol. It does not warm the scene as much as shade.
- Shade, sets a warmer (a little towards orange) than cloudy cast and has a building with lines depicting shade for a symbol.
- Custom and/or Kelvin, if you want to use these look in your camera manual or on line for information.
- Flash, is pretty much self-explanatory and has a flash gun for a symbol. It too warms the scene.

Of course, as the world turns so too does the world of lighting change as we now have to contend with LED bulbs which range in color cast from 2,700 kelvin (K) (incandescent) up to 5,000 K (daylight) and about 4 steps in between. If color cast is not that important or if shooting RAW, set to awb and hope for the best. If you know the K value of the light you can always dial it in the kelvin setting.

The one place where awb does work is at twilight or night under multiple light sources, though if you do much photography under these conditions, I would run a test of the various wb modes to find the best one or shoot in RAW.

Just remember, if you are shooting JPEG, reset the wb setting when the light changes as it is almost impossible to remove or change the color cast, as I found out one day when I went outdoors after shooting inside and could not remove the blue hue from the white pillars.

For those of you who shoot in RAW, the need to set wb is optional as you can change the wb in your processing software. The only real need to set wb is to have the JPEG image on the LCD best reflect what the camera captured. That being said I leave my wb setting in awb when shooting RAW as it will be close enough except for sunrise and sunset or any other scene with a color cast that is not normal.

## REQUESTS

**Products:** If you have made a photography related purchase in the past year or two, please consider submitting a brief review of the product. This includes gear and software. Some things you might want to include: why did you purchase this product, does it replace something you already own, is it user friendly? Send the review to Sue Frechette at [wfrprs@att.net](mailto:wfrprs@att.net) and she'll publish it in the newsletter.

**Photo Workshops and Tours:** Have you recently participated in a photography workshop or tour? Please consider writing a brief review of your experience. Please comment on the leader/instructor, the location, the photo opportunities, the learning experience in general would you recommend it to others, and anything else you'd like our members to know. Send it to Sue Frechette at [wfrprs@att.net](mailto:wfrprs@att.net). She'll publish it in the newsletter.



## CONNECTICUT HOSPICE PHOTOGRAPHY SHOW

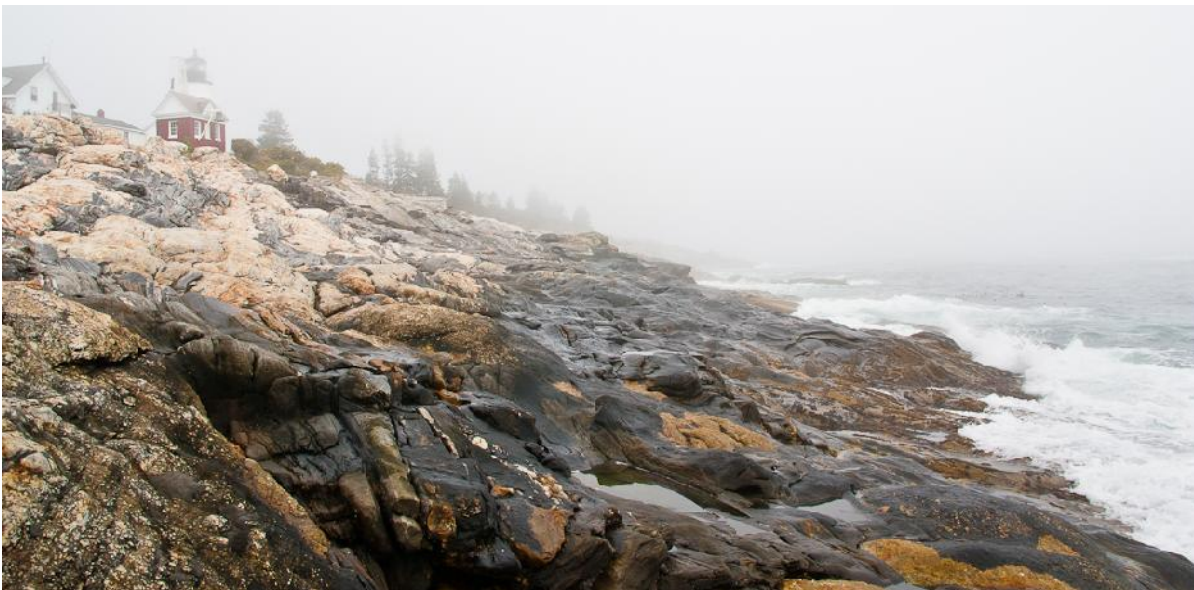
On January 8th the club opened an exhibit at the Connecticut Hospice in Branford. This show is an exhibit of members' work. Each participating photographer chose a theme and hung images following this theme in a 3' x 5' section of wall. Nine members contributed fifty eight images. The following is a sampling of images from each of the participating members.



This image is titled 'Great Spangled Fritillary' and it is by Allison Maltese. Allison's theme was 'Pollinators'.



'Late Summer Rose' is by Anne Mele. Her theme was 'Flowers'.



'Pemaquid Point' is by Maryann Flick. Her images were of the Maine Coast.



Leah Grenier submitted nature images from her backyard. This one is titled 'Hummingbird'.



'Peony' is by Janet Rathbun. Her images were nature themed.





Sue Frechette submitted images from the Maine coastline. This one is 'Portland Head Lighthouse'.



This is Paula Chabot's 'Acropolis'. Her theme was "Wish I Were There."



Dave Rathbun showed all black and white images. This one is 'Rescued Draft Horse'.

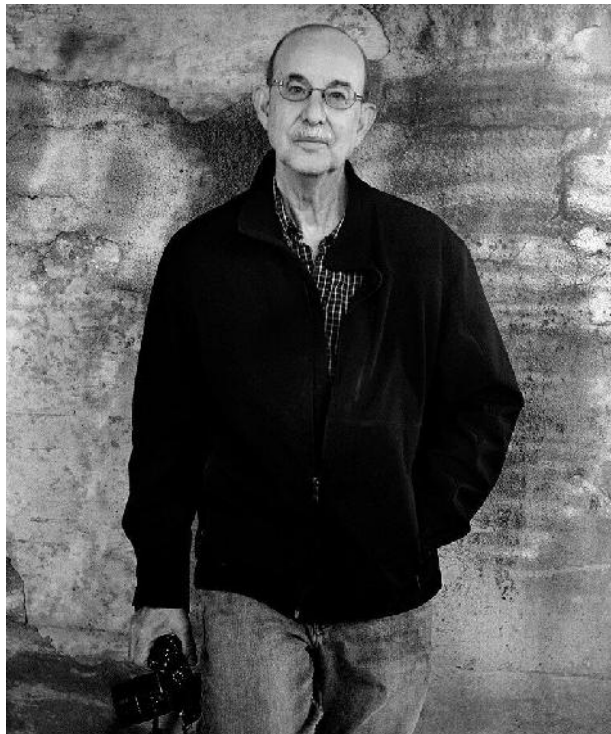


This image of 'Chloe and Zita' is by Dianne Roberts. She submitted pictures of her granddaughter, Chloe.

## LEWIS KATZ—FEBRUARY 2: THE ART OF BLACK AND WHITE PHOTOGRAPHY

On Wednesday February 2nd we will be hosting a live webinar by Lewis Katz titled “The Art of Black and White Photography”. This webinar approaches black and white photography in a unique fashion, exploring the “how to” and the “why and when” aspects. Mr. Katz will begin the program with a brief look at images created by some of the “masters” and will discuss topics such as pattern, texture, shape and light. The program will discuss color theory and its importance in creating dramatic black and white conversions. Mr. Katz will also demonstrate conversion of images using Lightroom and Nik software. Questions will follow

Mr. Katz became interested in photography at a young age watching his father take snapshots of family vacations with a twin lens reflex camera. His first camera was an Olympus Pen F but soon upgraded and continued to upgrade through the full line of Olympus OM models. He now shoots digital with Olympus and Nikon. Mr. Katz is an award-winning photographer and currently teaches photography at the Johns Hopkins Odyssey program, the Capital Photography Center of DC and for private students. You may read more about him and view his work at <https://www.lewiskatzphotography.com/>





## MARK JANKE— MARCH 2: CREATING A SLIDE SHOW

Mark Janke has been a very active member of the Coastal Camera Club since 2002. He currently volunteers on the CCC board and chairs the program committee. He is responsible for putting together all the great programs we enjoy every year. He is a frequent exhibitor in many of the club shows and he is very experienced in all kinds of nature photography; exotic plants, insects, birds, animals and even fish. Mark has put together for the club a program on creating slide shows. Our club has over the years volunteered to do slide shows for local organizations. Maybe you'd like to do one sometime for the club or for family and friends. There are many software packages that will create slide shows. Mark will show us the basics of creating a slide show as well as how to use features that are entertaining and add interest to your program. Below are some of Mark's images.



'Home Garden'



'Fiji Day'



## SUE FRECHETTE—APRIL 20: WINTER WORKSHOP AT THE GRAND TETONS

Sue Frechette joined the Coastal Camera Club in 2014 and has been a board volunteer for the past several years serving as secretary as well as newsletter chairman. She has participated in several destination photography tours and workshops and will be sharing one of her experiences in this program. In addition to showing some images from the workshop, Sue will talk about photography workshops and tours in general, how they typically work and what to expect if you decide to sign up for one. She'll cover pros and cons, what she likes and doesn't like about them, and the unique experience that this particular workshop in the Grand Tetons offered.



Grand Tetons in Winter

## JOHN PATON REMEMBERED

On December 14 we lost a long time club member, John Paton. John joined the Coastal Camera Club a number of years ago and has been a very active member, attending most meetings and activities and submitting his images to many of the club's shows and exhibits, including our most recent Fall Show at the Senior Center.

John's interest in photography spanned all categories, including landscapes, birds, and architecture, but many of his works focused on nature. His images were beautiful and often won ribbons in the club shows. Many of us admired his work and learned from his techniques which he was always happy to share with us. He will be greatly missed. Below are several of his prize winning pictures.

Outside of photography, he was an accomplished scientist and lived an interesting and full life. His obituary can be accessed at <https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/madison-ct/john-paton-10487656>



John at a 2019 club meeting  
talking with Dave Rathbun.



'Birds on a Branch' by John Patton



'Sibs' by John Patton