

COASTAL PHOTO CLUB



October 2023 Newsletter



Gallop
by Alan Welch



FROM THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Robbin Haigler, President - Coastal Photo Club



IT'S FALL Y'ALL!

This is my favorite time of year - cooler temps (usually), lower humidity (usually), and so many photo ops (all season long). Pumpkin patches and apple picking, fall festivals, haunted houses and trick-or-treaters, family gatherings (think backyard bonfires for something fun to photograph), fall sports, colorful landscapes, festive foods, candle lit still life or autumnal flat lay, your neighbors' porch decorations, farmers' markets . . . so many things to capture. And that's just for a start in October.

When November comes around I switch gears from fun to gratitude. A favorite past project I have enjoyed is a Gratitude Photo Book. The concept is very simple: Take one photo/day for 30 days of what you are thankful for.

I recently did a little research on sharing how gratitude and photography can be used together. I believe the article I enjoyed most came from the online Greater Good Magazine: Science Based Insights for a Meaningful Life.

The subject in this article included being mindful (a state of open awareness and attention) and to feel gratitude (truly notice the good things in life). An eight-week photography curriculum was created and used in an elementary school project.

Their project manual states: "One can say photography is a physical manifestation of mindfulness. It is about stopping/pausing, observing, framing, focusing, and capturing/receiving ... Basically, photography is about a relationship to the present moment. Relating to the present moment with joy and gratitude is a choice we can make."

We often rush through our busy lives without truly noticing or appreciating all the beauty that surrounds us. The creators of this program found mindful photography as a creative way to cultivate focus, deep seeing, and gratitude that both students and adults can carry with them into the rest of their lives. You can read the whole article [HERE](#).

Are you up to the challenge to capture your gratitude through the lens of your camera? What are you photographing this fall? You might find inspiration for your North Carolina fall photos [HERE](#) or check out this [LINK](#) for a good explanation & suggested ideas for the 30 Day Gratitude Photo Challenge.

Be sure to share with us by sending in a few photos to Dave for the CPC Newsletter (his email address is in every issue of our weekly Tuesday email update). Include a few sentences or a couple paragraphs to complete your story. With your participation in each of our newsletters through photos and/or short articles, we may have a 1st place award winning issue in 2024.

"Taking pictures is savoring life intensely, every hundredth of a second." ~ Marc Riboud

I'll be looking for you this month out and about with a camera in hand.

In This Issue

| | |
|------------------------------|-------|
| • President's Message | 2 |
| • September Minicomp Results | 3-12 |
| • From the Members | 13-15 |
| • Accolades & Awards | 16 |
| • Tips & Tricks | 17 |
| • Welcome New Members | 18 |
| • Member Galleries | 19-22 |
| • Did You Know? | 23 |
| • General Club Information | 24-26 |
| • Treasurer's Report | 25 |

September Mini-Comp Winners

• Wildlife



Our judges scored 76 images: 44 color and 32 monochrome. For a look at all the submitted images with judges' comments, visit the CPC website ([color](#) | [monochrome](#)). Even if you did not enter the competition, you might learn something from your fellow members' comments.



Color - 1st Place

Gallop

by Alan Welch

September Mini-Comp Winners

• Wildlife



Our judges scored 76 images: 44 color and 32 monochrome. For a look at all the submitted images with judges' comments, visit the CPC website ([color](#) | [monochrome](#)). Even if you did not enter the competition, you might learn something from your fellow members' comments.



Color - 2nd Place

What's That You Say?
by Frank Davis

September Mini-Comp Winners

• Wildlife



Our judges scored 76 images: 44 color and 32 monochrome. For a look at all the submitted images with judges' comments, visit the CPC website ([color](#) | [monochrome](#)). Even if you did not enter the competition, you might learn something from your fellow members' comments.



Color - 3rd Place

Died Happy
by Karen Mason

September Mini-Comp Winners

• Wildlife



Our judges scored 76 images: 44 color and 32 monochrome. For a look at all the submitted images with judges' comments, visit the CPC website ([color](#) | [monochrome](#)). Even if you did not enter the competition, you might learn something from your fellow members' comments.



Color - Honorable Mention

Fresh Catch

by Dave Hilbert

September Mini-Comp Winners

• Wildlife



Our judges scored 76 images: 44 color and 32 monochrome. For a look at all the submitted images with judges' comments, visit the CPC website ([color](#) | [monochrome](#)). Even if you did not enter the competition, you might learn something from your fellow members' comments.



Color - Honorable Mention

Testing My Wings

by Rick Gourley

September Mini-Comp Winners

• Wildlife



Our judges scored 76 images: 44 color and 32 monochrome. For a look at all the submitted images with judges' comments, visit the CPC website ([color](#) | [monochrome](#)). Even if you did not enter the competition, you might learn something from your fellow members' comments.



Monochrome - 1st Place

Meeting for Lunch

by Karen Mason

September Mini-Comp Winners

• Wildlife



Our judges scored 76 images: 44 color and 32 monochrome. For a look at all the submitted images with judges' comments, visit the CPC website ([color](#) | [monochrome](#)). Even if you did not enter the competition, you might learn something from your fellow members' comments.



Monochrome - 2nd Place

Up A Tree
by Rick Gourley

September Mini-Comp Winners

• Wildlife



Our judges scored 76 images: 44 color and 32 monochrome. For a look at all the submitted images with judges' comments, visit the CPC website ([color](#) | [monochrome](#)). Even if you did not enter the competition, you might learn something from your fellow members' comments.



Monochrome - 3rd Place

Swim At Your Own Risk

by James Colucci

September Mini-Comp Winners

• Wildlife



Our judges scored 76 images: 44 color and 32 monochrome. For a look at all the submitted images with judges' comments, visit the CPC website ([color](#) | [monochrome](#)). Even if you did not enter the competition, you might learn something from your fellow members' comments.



Monochrome - Honorable Mention

On the Wing
by Paul Gemperline

September Mini-Comp Winners

• Wildlife



Our judges scored 76 images: 44 color and 32 monochrome. For a look at all the submitted images with judges' comments, visit the CPC website ([color](#) | [monochrome](#)). Even if you did not enter the competition, you might learn something from your fellow members' comments.



Monochrome - Honorable Mention

Good Morning
by Chuck Colucci



From the Members

by Doug Carawan

On Saturday Sept. 16, I shot the Adaptive Surf Project at Oceanana Pier. This is a program for young people with special needs. The program ran during the summer and this day was the last event for the year. These young people sometime struggle just to handle day-to-day events; some couldn't even walk on their own. This day they would trust the volunteer and get on a surfboard and go out into a big scary ocean. The volunteers were amazing from laying a mat across the sand, pushing special carts to get to the beach, and standing in waist deep water most of the day to make sure the rider is safe and the surfer who would ride the board. I saw moms with tears in their eyes, not from sadness, but from seeing their child doing something that was out of their comfort zone. I shared pictures with them. I will most definitely be back next year. Local restaurants also stepped up and provided lunch for everyone.





From the Members

by Judy Hills

AI-Generated Images

Maybe you missed it, but German artist Boris Eldagsen entered the Sony World Photography Awards – the creative open category. His award-winning photo is pictured to the right.

Eldagsen, according to The Guardian, revealed on his website that he was not accepting the prize, admitting to being a “cheeky monkey.” He used artificial intelligence to generate the image. Eldagsen says that his entry was designed to provoke debate and to find out if competitions would be prepared for AI images to enter.

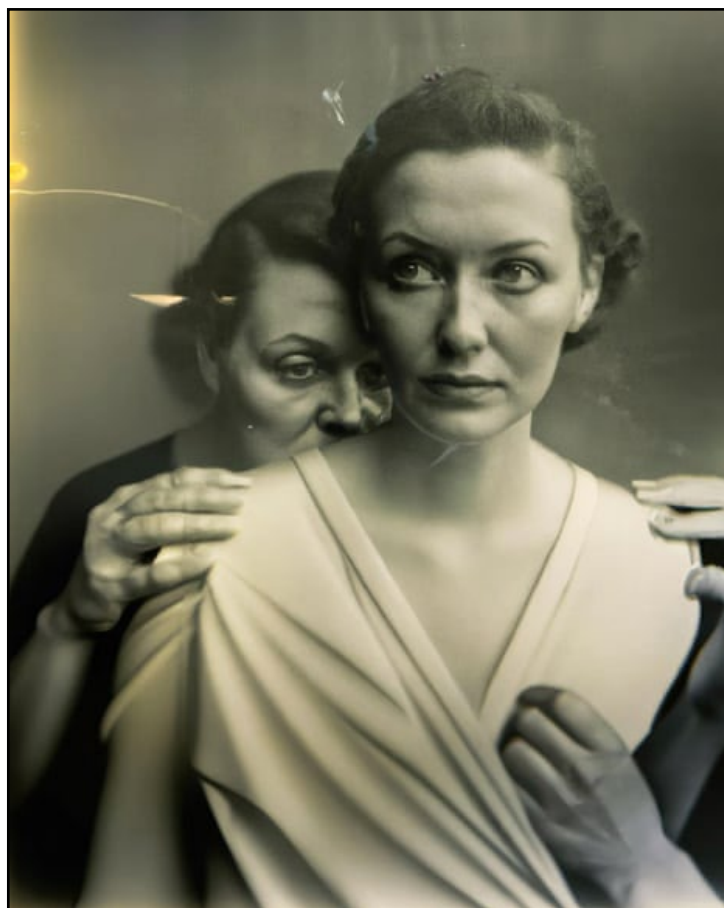
“They are not,” he added. He further stated that AI was not photography. To read the entire article, click [here](#).

Prior to reading this article, I was “invited” by Bing to try its new AI-generated “images.” Specifically, to “create art from words with AI.” OK, I’ll bite. I was looking for a Halloween image that included a boat and was not finding anything interesting using my usual search techniques, so I decided to try it.

Image Creator generates AI images based on your text. This is an incredibly cool option for pictures and graphics to enhance your website and publications.

On the next page is one of the four images created with the phrase “orange Halloween pumpkins skeletons in a boat impressionism.” Very spooky!

It may take you a while to get the hang of the phraseology to get the desired result. I am sure they are trying to hook you on this technology and will want to start charging for it later! LOL Click [here](#) to learn more and to see examples of the type of phrase needed to create the sample image (scroll over the image).



So, this begs the question, unless the photographer tells us, how can we know if an image is AI-generated? Scientific American says it is “next to impossible to detect.” And as the AI gets more sophisticated, the harder it will become. Even another AI program may not be able to detect its use because the images are generated by programs using different algorithms. Most AI detectors also lack user-friendly interfaces.

This does not mean we should stop trying. Some suggest that social media platforms need to begin to confront AI-generated content on their websites because they are in a better position to do so.



(cont. from page 14)

And we humans need to be more skeptical in evaluating visual information. Seeing is no longer believing. Click [here](#) to read this article.

Actually, when you look at the metadata on both these images – properties/details/camera data– nothing shows. I would assume that means it was not taken with a camera of any sort. When you are just looking at an image on a website, social media site, or on paper–there isn't really a good way to tell if it is AI-generated.

Something else interesting, did you know that a work of art created by artificial intelligence without any human input cannot be copyrighted under U.S. law, a U.S. court in Washington, D.C. has ruled. But what if a human took the AI-generated art and manipulated it? What then?

So, what might that mean for the Coastal Photo Club? Should we have a new category for our photo contests? Should every person who enters our photo contests be required to state that the image is not AI-generated? What if the image started out as AI-generated and then the member used their skills to further enhance it with one of the photo processing programs? Is that just a manipulated photo?

This topic will be a lively source of discussion for some time to come as these AI generators take over more and more of the photo and literary worlds. Could this be the next CPC contest category?



From the Members

by Donna Hodgins

I would like to invite everyone to come stop in and visit me at 514 Metcalf on Saturday, Nov. 4 during the New Bern Open Studio tour.

Forty artists around the city will be opening their studios for you to visit, and maps are available around town and online at newbernartists.com for you to look at and plan your day.

I will be set up with my entire photo library collection for you to look through and enjoy, and would love to hear your feedback. Looking forward to seeing you there.

Accolades



& Awards

Congratulations to the following club members for making a sale at this years Bank of the Arts exhibit: **Claire Hageman** (Peoples Choice Award Winner), **Elaine Varley**, **Donna Hodgins**, **Karen Mason**, and **Marty Pitcairn**. Two of the images are pictured here; we'll feature others in our next issue.



Winter at Pungo - Claire Hageman



Feathered Headrest - Donna Hodgins



Editor's Note: Welcome to this new feature of our monthly newsletter. We hope to offer similar content in future issues. To that end, we invite members to submit their own tip, tool, or technique. It can be as simple as a camera feature you just discovered, or something you've done for years and would like to share with the members. The more tips we receive from members, the more we can share.

Rating Your Photos

by Dave Hilbert

You've just shot dozens of photos - maybe hundreds - and you know you've captured some great images. You upload the images into your favorite editing software, but now you've got to sort through all those photos to find those shots you were excited about. There must be a faster, more efficient way. Fortunately, there is.

Many, if not most, cameras in use today offer a feature that allows users the option to rate images while reviewing them in playback mode. On my Nikon D500 DSLR (pictured), for example, I can rate a photo from 1-5 stars, or leave it unrated.

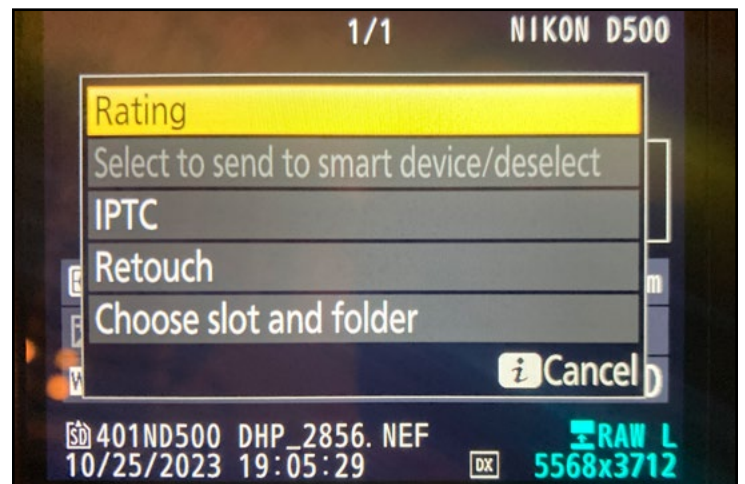
Now, when I import those photos into my editing software (I use Adobe Bridge), I can sort them by rating, thus making it quick and easy to find the images I want.

Let me offer a real life example. It's halftime at a basketball game, and I've shot about 250-300 images. My client wants eight quality shots - four from the home team and four from the visiting team - to post online before the start of the second half. I've got about 10 minutes to get this done.

Fortunately, I've been rating my photos during timeouts, assigning my best shots of the home team five stars and best shots of the visitors four stars. Now when I upload the photos and open Adobe Bridge (or Lightroom, etc.), I can sort the photos by rating and quickly find the photos I need to send the client.

For details on how to use the rating feature on various camera brands, visit one of the links below:

- [Canon](#)
- [Nikon](#)
- [Sony](#)





New Member Corner



Please welcome **Chuck Brant** as a new member of the Coastal Photo Club.

Chuck took the Basic Digital Photography class with Tom McCabe this year and got hooked. His cameras are the Panasonic G9 and GX9 (travel) with a variety of lenses

from 9-300mm (FF 18-600mm) with a focus on small and light, being easy to travel with. He has primarily been using Lightroom Mobile, but also has Lightroom and Photoshop for Mac.

Chuck is Director of Software at Red Hat, an IBM Company and is married to Wendi.

In addition to travel photography, Chuck is interested in experimenting with all genres including street, nature, and landscape. You can check out some of Chuck's photographs at chuckbrant.github.io/gallery.

Welcome to the club, Chuck.



Please welcome **Anders Pedersen** as a new member of the Coastal Photo Club. Anders also took the Basic Digital Photography class with Tom McCabe earlier this year and is now joining CPC.

Anders is new to New Bern. He grew up in Norway, but has lived

in the U.S. for 30+ years. He works as a database administrator (remotely) for a company based in Raleigh.

As an aviation geek, Anders is crazy into traveling and will have visited seven or eight countries by the end of this year. He experienced the world's longest scheduled commercial flight (Singapore to New York) this May, a total of 19 hours in the air.

Like many of us, Anders was into film photography and videography in the past, took a break, and is now getting back into photography. He is currently using a Pentax K1 with an eye towards mirrorless in the future.

In addition to aviation and airshows, Anders likes to photograph car shows, nature, and architecture.

Welcome to the club, Anders.

Member Gallery – Doug Carawan



Dickinson After Dark - Greenville, N.C.



Member Gallery – Robbin Haigler



Greenville Art Walk (10/6/23)



Z.A.K.s in Mallardtwn (10/21/23)



Community Service for New Bern Ghost Walk (10/7/23)



Cedar Grove Cemetery (long exposure) (10/10/23)



Cedar Grove Cemetery (long exposure) (10/10/23)

Member Gallery – Dave Hilbert



Blues Traveler at MCAS Cherry Point's Rocktoberfest (10/19/23)



Member Gallery – Mary O'Neill



New Bern Crop Walk (9/24/23)





Did You Know?

- We have a **members only web page** accessible on coastalphotoclub.com?
- Details for CPC Club Members can be found in our **Weekly Email Updates**?
- **Coastal Photo Club meets** on the second Saturday of every month (except October when it is changed to the third Saturday)?
- Club **members gather monthly** for informal sessions on topics of their choice?
 - Coffee & Cameras on the FIRST Wednesday of every month
 - Camera Cafe on the LAST Wednesday of every month
- **Mini Comp submissions** are now due on the 15th of each month?
- Club members are invited to attend the newly formed Photo Op Meet-ups? These are local and informal gatherings to practice your photography skills or perhaps learn new photography techniques. All skill levels are welcome and details are in our weekly Tuesday email updates.
- You are responsible for recording your own **Participation Points**? The top three participants will be recognized at our August 2024 monthly meeting.
- You can earn Participation Points when you submit content for the **CPC Newsletter**? Email your content to Dave Hilbert by the Monday after the monthly meeting? For example, if a club meeting occurs on Saturday, January 10, the deadline for the February newsletter would be Monday, January 12.
- Our **members only Facebook Page** allows you to post photos that you would like to have others comment on, critique, or make other suggestions for improvements?



About the Coastal Photo Club

Aspire • Learn • Develop

We provide a variety of opportunities for our members with the hope that each member will find something of interest. The best way to improve your photography is to get out and shoot. All of our activities and community service projects are designed to help our members learn. There are a lot of experiences for you to get involved in. We hope to see you at some of them.

Coastal Photo Club, Inc.
P. O. Box 585
New Bern, NC 28563-0585
cpcnewbern@gmail.com

2023-24 Club Officers & Board Members

President

Robbin Haigler

Secretary/Treasurer

Carol Krom

Competition

Marty Pitcairn

Special Events & Community Service

Rick Meyer

Past President

Bob Dumon

Vice President

Doug Carawan

Membership

Becky Adcock

Field Trips & Outings

Cathleen McAnneny

Marketing & Public Relations

Alan Welch

Members-at-Large

John Steady,
Karl Mielenhausen

Coastal Photo Club News is the monthly newsletter emailed free to members and friends of the CPC. Items highlighting the activities of the club, news, opportunities, and awards, as well as items related to the photography field submitted by members are encouraged and welcomed. The experience and accomplishments of our members are diverse, but we encourage learning and sharing. Members' photos for our Club Gallery are especially encouraged. All image rights reserved by the photographers.

Membership Benefits

- Web portfolio: Display and edit your portfolio at no charge on the CPC web site.
- Competition: Challenge yourself and receive feedback on your work through monthly competitions available only to members. Two juried competitions annually.
- Instruction: In-house, hands-on workshops with experts and novices, and presentations by visiting pros make meetings interesting and useful.
- Exhibit your work: The CPC is regularly invited to mount exhibits in galleries and other public venues. Usually, you can offer your prints for sale.
- Service: Give back to the community by doing what you love. CPC members have the opportunity to volunteer as photographers for local nonprofit events and organizations.
- Free newsletter: Our monthly newsletter offers photography tips and event information. Submit your own images for publication.
- Field trips: Enhance and practice your skills in new settings. Group travel makes it fun and affordable. Past trips include Historical North Carolina towns, nature & wildlife settings and local outings in New Bern.
- Discounts: At redriverpaper.com/myclub, enter the club code "coastal" when placing your order. The club also gets a commission each time you order. Ballantyne Framing and Art in New Bern offers a 15% artist discount to active CPC members.



Treasurer's Report September 2023

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| BEGINNING BALANCE: | \$5,410.87 |
| DEPOSITS: | |
| Deposit (9/1/23) | \$270.00 |
| Family Memberships (9/12/23) | \$120.00 |
| Individual Memberships (9/12/23) | \$220.00 |
| Individual Memberships (9/26/23) | \$20.00 |
| EXPENSES: | |
| Constant Contact (9/11/23) | \$21.85 |
| Staples (9/18/23) | \$16.00 |
| Dynamod (9/20/23) | \$29.95 |
| ENDING BALANCE: | \$5,973.07 |
| NURSING HOME RESERVE: | \$1.00 |
| AVAILABLE FUNDS: | \$5,972.07 |

Submitted by Carol Krom, 10/18/23

Stay Connected



Follow Coastal Photo Club on our [Facebook Page](#).

We also have a Facebook Group for members only. Join the group and feel free to ask questions and/or advice from your fellow photographers, as well as share your images. Details in the weekly club emails.



CPC Newsletter Archive

Missed a previous issue? The last 12 months of CPC Newsletters are available [online](#).

Member Photo Gallery Submissions

Submitted photos should be in .jpg format. Please label your file with the title of your photo. Titles add context or meaning to your photo. (Example: Jane Doe_Fall Leaves.jpg). Please send photos at 72 ppi and 1,440 pixels on longest side to Dave Hilbert (email address available in CPC newsletter and emails).



asapphoto.com

252.321.8888 • 3701 Charles Boulevard, Suite 100 • Greenville
Hours: Monday-Friday: 9-6 • Saturday: 10-3 • Closed Sunday

ASAP Photo's goal is to equip and inspire you to use photography, videography and audio to capture meaningful moments in life. To stay up-to-date with special offers and new product releases subscribe [HERE](#) for their newsletter.



About the Photographic Society of America (PSA)



The Photographic Society of America (PSA) founded in 1934, is a world-wide organization providing abundant resources for photographers, from the novice to the professional.

Membership is in over 80 countries, 5,000 members, 460 Camera Clubs and 11 Chapters across the United States.

Coastal Photo Club is a member of PSA. A benefit we are receiving is a professional judge evaluating/critiquing the monthly mini comps. Members are finding these comments quite helpful with their images as well as images of others in the competition. You may want to consider joining this organization as an individual as a viable option in training for you.

Annual individual digital membership is only \$45.

Benefits of membership include:

- Study Groups
- Online Photography Classes
- Webinars
- Personal Gallery Page
- Individual Competitions
- Member Discounts
- PSA-Recognized Exhibitions
- Photography Recognition
- Society Recognition
- Monthly Journal
- Mentors and Consultants

Visit PSA [Online](#) or [Facebook](#)



Ballantyne Framing & Art, now owned and operated by Rachel Burger after the retirement of Mary Kay and Marianne.

- All pieces are handled in-house and never shipped to a different location for framing. Moulding is cut and assembled on-site
- Wide variety of moulding to choose from – wood and metal available
- All work mounted and matted using acid free materials
- Standard glass used is Conservation Clear glass –99% UV protective - museum glass and acrylic options are available at additional cost.
- All artists receive a 15% discount when bringing in their own work to have framed.
- All pricing includes custom frame, mounting materials, glass, backing paper, hanging hardware and glass spacers