

Shutterbug Times

Official Newsletter of the Olympia Camera Club Olympia, WA Established in 1935

October 2023

www.olympiacameraclub.org

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Find us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/OlympiaCameraClub

Mystery in the Garden



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President's Corner

I have just returned from a month in Europe. Before leaving I read several articles concerning travel photography. They did a fine job covering the perfect kit and locations. What no one talked about was how someone can come home with anything other than a snapshot when traveling with a group of non-photographers (including relatives and loved ones). With that in mind I will share a few of my own rules for travel with non-photographers.

The number one thing to bear in mind is you will have about ten seconds to frame and take a photo before you are left behind. Everything else is based on this.

First the kit. Take some time and think about what type of photos will make up the bulk of your shots and build your kit accordingly. In line with the ten second rule you can leave most of your stuff at home. One lens and one camera body are going to be about it. You don't have time to change a lens or filter let alone break out a tripod.

Before you leave make sure to get out and practice. Walk around town with your camera and one lens and limit yourself to one frame per stop. You will be surprised at how this will improve your photos.

The whole point of this is to have a good time if you are the only photographer in a group. Travel light, think and shoot quick, and everyone will be happy. If you lug around too much stuff and take forever on your shots you will find yourself alone and in need of cab fare. I have been traveling with one particular non-photographer for over fifty years and she has long ago convinced me that making a little sacrifice in your photography is much more fun than sticking to your guns and hoping everyone else is willing to wait around while you try to create art. You might be surprised at just how much fun it can be.

Ed Tromble



Dates to RememberAll club meetings will be virtual on Zoom

October

- 10 October Practical Photography
- 12 October Koffee Klatch
- 19 October OPCC/OCC General Meeting
- 21 October Boo-coda Field Trip
- 24 October Member Sharing
- 26 October Koffee Klatch

November

- 7 November Board Meeting
- 9 November Articles and Images due for Newsletter
- 9 November Koffee Klatch
- 14 November Practical Photography
- 16 November OPCC/OCC General Meeting
- 28 November Member Sharing

Our Practical Photography meeting is now a hybrid meeting General and Member Sharing meetings are virtual taking place using Zoom

The Zoom links are available on the OCC Website in the Members Only Area - Zoom Link

Practical Photography October 10, 2023 7-9 pm

Set Up Your Phone's Camera for Success

Fellow OCC members, Cynthia A. Whelan and Nancy Nelson will go through how you can get ready to use your phone as your second camera. Cynthia will describe useful settings for an iPhone. As needed, Nancy will show the comparable set-up for Android phones.

Join us for a Hybrid meeting either on Zoom or in person at Capital High School - Pod A 2707 Conger Ave NW Olympia, WA 98502 https://goo.gl/maps/PjV2D link to maps Park in the upper parking lot (Teachers and Visitors) and enter through the main Administration doors at the east end of the school. Follow signs once inside the door to Pod A.



Gene Pardee, Coordinator

General Meeting October 19, 2023 7-9 pm

Note: Use the zoom link for the Olympic Peaks Camera Club, listed in our Membership area on our OCC website.

J.P. Stones: Storytelling for Photographers

JP has spent the last five years photographing the same group of Mexica, or Aztec, dancers. This is a talk about what happened after he took the photos. About how a desire to tell stories visually, ended up changing his entire creative process, and the way people react to his photos. Using examples from his <u>cultural photography</u> work in Mexico, JP Stones explores different ways to improve that emotional connection. Including how myths and character archetypes can be harnessed for better storytelling.



Dennis Plank, Coordinator

Member Sharing Night October 24, 2023 7-9

Our theme is Planes, Trains, and Automobiles

There is a wide variety of subject matter in this theme and we won't penalize buses and helicopters. We would like to see members showing their unique vision. Upload up to three images in the folder located in the club's Dropbox/October-Planes, Trains and Cars.



Nature Photographers of the Pacific Northwest Fall Conference 2023

submitted by Gerald Pumphrey

The meeting of NPPNW will be November 4 in the FORUM at Linn-Benton Community College located between Albany and Corvallis, OR. (directions below) The doors will open at 8:30 am and the program will begin at 10 am.



The invited speaker will be Canon Explorer of Light, Darrell Gulin. Darrell has been photographing and marketing his work for almost four decades and has been a full time photographer for a good portion of that time. Darrell shoots with a Canon 5D Mark III and the Canon R3 and R5 Mirrorless systems. He is one of Canon's Explorers of Light and is a Past President of the North American Nature Photographers Association.

Darrell's work is represented by Getty Images and several other stock photography agencies and has been published in National Geographic, Outdoor Photographer, Newsweek, Audubon, National Wildlife, Birder's World, Popular Photography, Natures Best, Sunset, Nature Conservancy and many more. He has also been showcased in almost all of the Nature/Wildlife calendars. Treat yourself to some of Darrell's work at his website: http://gulinphoto.com.

Darrell will make two presentations: "LANDSCAPE PHOTOGRAPHY of North America" and "SIGNATURE IMAGES Over My Photographic Lifetime".

Details regarding registrations driving directions and print/digital image competitions are available online at nppnw.org.

Boo-Coda Spook-Tacular Festival Field Trip

October 21, 2023 10:30 am to mid-afternoon (after the casket races) Leader: Madeline McIntire

Every year the small South Thurston town of Bucoda ceremonially changes their name to Boo-Coda for the month of October, when the town goes big on a month-long celebration of Halloween.



The major event on October 21 is the casket races. The start time will be after 1 pm and is still to be determined as to how long it will run as it depends on the number of entries. Teams consist of four pallbearers and one corpse. Other activities start at 11 am, such as face painting and a haunted market with food, art, crafts, and commercial vendors. There will also be music starting at 1 pm.

The Boo-Coda Spook-Tacular Festival provides a great opportunity to practice street photography and portraits of strangers in a setting where people are expecting lots of cameras. There will be a lot of people in costume. Props and batches of interesting items for sale in the market are also great subjects. Practice your action and event photography at the casket races. After the field trip, please share a few images with the event coordinators (https://boo-coda.com/). Also, don't forget to put your images on our webpage and email them to our newsletter for the newsletter field trip gallery.

Optional opportunities later in the day are the Forest Grove Cemetery Historic Tour in Tenino from 4 to 8 pm and the Boo-Coda Haunted House from 7 to 11 pm. Meetup location: Bucoda Town Hall & Community Center, 101 A East 7th St, Bucoda, WA 98530. We will free roam in small groups or independently as desired and meet up for lunch, then watch the casket race. Brown bag it or purchase your lunch from one of the vendors or Joe's Place. Admission: Free. Cemetery Tour: \$15. Haunted House: \$13. https://boo-coda.com/

October Phototunities

by Terri Hoselton

Evergreen Arboretum & Gardens, Everett, WA https://www.evergreenarboretum.com/japanese-maple-grove-1

Bloedel Reserve, Bainbridge Island, WA https://bloedelreserve.org/gardens/

Membership Report

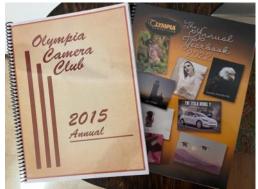
by Colleen Easley

Our membership now stands at 155. We had two new members join this past month. Please welcome Lin and Maryke Hines.



Olympia Camera Club Annual What is it?

by Bruce Livingston



The OCC Annual is a photographic book consisting of photographs from the club's members. It has been produced every year for as long as anyone in the club can remember. I have participated

in the "Annual" since 2015 and many other club members have participated much longer.

Who can participate? Every club member may participate, and if you participate, you would get a copy of the book for yourself. I have all of my Annuals since 2015 and it is fun to look through them occasionally to see who participated and to see their photographs. So, how does this work?

Each club member that would like to participate makes their intention known so that I can let everyone know how many books we will be making. Then each participant selects the image they would like to share in the book and makes the number of prints for each book. So, if 25 people want to participate and there will be 25 books, each participant would make 25 prints of the image they would like to include in the book. If the number of books is different from the number of participants (e.g., two members of the same household participate but only want one book to share, there may be fewer books than participants).



I am willing to lead the production of the Annual again this year, however; the participation has dwindled the last two years. I am asking you to think about whether you would like to participate this year, and to think about what

image you would like to submit for the book. I will be asking for a firm commitment on participation sometime in late November, with the prints being due to me in early January. I will let participants know how many prints to make in mid-December and will arrange for printing the covers and binding the books with a local vendor. In past years, the cost of printing covers and binding has

been shared among the participants and has been a small fee (estimated to be \$5.00 to \$8.00 each).

Questions?? OR.....If you already know you would like to participate, please contact me to let me know. You can email me at recyclist48@gmail.com or call me at 360-918-3026.



Members Congratulations

Congratulations to The Olympic Peaks Camera Club/ Olympia Camera Club members Peggy Hanson for winning a PSA end of year Honorable Mention award, and Bruce Fryxell who won the PSA gold medal for the top photograph in Group F in the 2022-3 PID Inter-club Photo Competition.



Merganser—Peggy Hanson



Catch of the Day—Bruce Fryxell

Brief History of Photography

by Dennis Plank

Introduction:

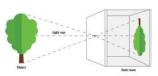
I never liked history when I was in school because it all seemed to be about rulers, wars, and depressions. Later I discovered that there were first-hand accounts of explorers and naturalists and these I found absolutely fascinating. In engineering school, I got interested in the history of technology and how the tools I worked with had evolved. Once I got into bird photography, I started studying the history of that craft, which also led me back to the beginnings of photography as a whole.

Hopefully a few of our club members will find it interesting as well. I intend to keep this to bite-sized chunks and include references and links for those who might be interested in delving further into it. Since I do not consider myself an expert in this area, if anyone reading these has more information or corrections to what I write, please email me and I'll issue a correction in the following month's newsletter.

At this point, I have a rough outline and am just creating....

Episode 1: The Camera Obscura

It seems odd, but the "camera" was invented around 2,000 years before we had photography. It took that long before someone tried and succeeded to fix an image for posterity without having to draw it.



Basic principle of the camera obscura. From: https://www.camera-obscura.co.uk/ article/what-is-a-camera-obscura

The camera obscura was the result of the observation first documented about 400 BC by Chinese philosopher Motzu (or Mozi) that a pinhole in one wall of a dark room with light outside the room will form an image of what is outside on the wall opposite the pinhole (upside down and backwards). Voila! The room is now a camera! If you put a piece of paper on that wall, you could draw a faithful representation of what is outside. In the following century, Aristotle mentioned that a partial eclipse of the sun would be projected on the ground by the interstices of the leaves of a tree or through a sieve. During the last major eclipse, local photographer David Schoen photographed that phenomenon.



Partial eclipse shadows on deck through tree leaves-David Schoen

In 1036 AD the Arab, Al-Hassan Ibn al-Haytham (or Alhazen) presented a description of a working model and experiments done with partial eclipses.

In about 1086 AD Shen Kua in China provided a correct description of the phenomenon, comparing the rays of light to oars with the pinhole being the oarlock.

As one might expect, Leonardo da Vinci came up with the idea of using the Camera Obscura for art. In one of his notebooks in 1490, he wrote: "If the facade of a building, or a place, or a landscape is illuminated by the sun and a small hole is drilled in the wall of a room in a building facing this, which is not directly lighted by the sun, then all objects illuminated by the sun will send their images through this aperture and will appear, upside down, on the wall facing the hole. You will catch these pictures on a piece of white paper, which placed vertically in the room not far from that opening, and you will see all the above-mentioned objects on this paper in their natural shapes or colors, but they will appear smaller and upside down, on account of crossing of the rays at that aperture. If these pictures originate from a place which is illuminated by the sun, they will appear colored on the paper exactly as they are. The paper should be very thin and must be viewed from the back."

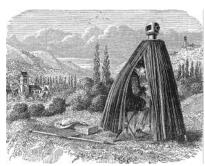


The logical extension of this principle is this portable room with pinholes in all four walls and an inner room with translucent walls. From http://www.essentialvermeer.com/camera_obscura/co_one.html

Unfortunately, Da Vinci didn't publish his notebooks and it wasn't until they were rediscovered and published in 1797 that the world became aware of his ideas. Instead, an Italian scholar, Giovanni Battista della Porta wrote that the "obscurum cubiculum" (his name for it) made it "possible for anyone ignorant in the art of painting to draw with a pencil or pen, the image of any object whatsoever." He published this in a book titled **Magiae Natu-**

(Continued from page 6)

ralis (Natural Magic) written in colloquial Italian. It became extremely popular and was translated into many languages, popularizing the use of this device by artists and others. In this same era (1551) there is the first known mention of using a lens instead of the pinhole. In 1568, Daniele Barbaro, talked about covering the outer part of the lens leaving only a clear section in the middle to sharpen the image. So now we have the lens, the aperture and in some cases a mirror (in this era it would have been polished metal) to shift the image at right angles as in the astronomer, Johannes Kepler's, portable camera obscura used for sketching 360 degree panoramas.



Much later image, but this is basically what Kepler used. From https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/
Camera obscura

Shrinking it down to a box that we would recognize as a camera took place in the mid-1600's as described by Gaspar Schott and Robert Boyle in 1657 and 1669 respectively. By the late 17th century the camera obscura had reached pretty much it's final form of a "portable" box fitted with a lens, mirror and translucent screen, often incorporating a focusing method as well.



Camera Obscura 1769 From http://www.essentialvermeer.com/camera obscura/co one.html

fig. 15 Camera Obscura by Georg Friedrich Brander, 1769

The camera obscura was used as a drawing aid well into the 20th century and the opaque projector, based on the same principle, is still sold in art stores. Additionally, fixed installations are still in use as educational and amusement devices in many locations.



Camera Obscura 1919 From http://www.essentialvermeer.com/camera obscura/co one.html



San Francisco's Camera Obscura (damaged in this year's January storms). From the web.



The Edinburgh Camera Obscura and World of Illusions. From https://www.camera-obscura.co.uk

In addition to the websites referenced in the image captions, there are a number of others on the subject which a quick search will reveal. I found the Vermeer site the most complete, though Wikipedia was also quite good.

Paper references include:

A Chronology of Photography: A Cultural Timeline From Camera Obscura to Instagram, Paul Lowe, Thames and Hudson, ISBN 13: 9780500545034
History of Photography, Josef Maria Eder, translated by Edward Epstean, Dover books, ISBN 0486235866
History of Photography, Techniques and Equipment, by Camfield and Deirdre Wills, Exeter books, ISBN 0896730409

Volunteers Needed

by Dennis Plank

Are you an experienced image processer? Do you have a laptop that runs your processing software? We need you for an experimental workshop.

There was a great deal of interest expressed in the club survey in improving processing skills. Unfortunately, there are now a fairly large number of image processing software packages in use by club members, which makes instruction by presentation difficult. We want to set up a Saturday afternoon session where inexperienced people can bring an image or two on a thumb drive and pair up with someone who is experienced in their software to work through the process and learn some tricks of the trade.

If you're willing to participate, please send an email to dennis.r.plank@gmail.com and I'll put you on the list.

September Field Trip Report

by Terri Hoselton

Seven hardy, adventure seeking OCC photographers braved the first rainy day autumn in the Pacific Northwest and ventured to Elandan Gardens. While the rain started out a bit heavy, it soon lightened providing time to explore the gardens and take some photos.



This was OCC's first field trip to the gardens and it was well worth it. If you have not been, I encourage you to put it on your list of places to visit. It is only a little over an hour from Olympia. The entrance can be a little difficult to find, so have a good look at the map and directions before you go.

I really enjoyed photographing the variety of colors, shapes and textures. I mainly used my 70-200 mm lens. I would also suggest bringing a macro lens if you have one. It is someplace that would be nice to visit in different seasons to see how it changes. In addition to the amazing bonsai collection there are ponds, little waterfalls, old boats, and sculptures. One tree is nearly 1,000 years old and some of the bonsai trees even had fruit! There are numerous benches to sit and take in the view.



Photography 101 – Aperture

by Susan Bradley

Aperture works like our pupils; it's the opening of the camera lens, which controls the amount of light that goes through the lens to the camera sensor. Aperture is one of the three pillars of photography (the other two being shutter speed and ISO).

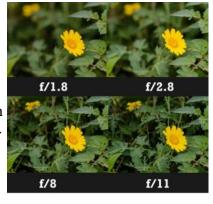
Due to how much aperture can change what is in focus in your image it can be said that aperture is the most important. This basic photography concept has a direct effect on the exposure; the wider the aperture the brighter the image will be, and the narrower the aperture the darker it will be. It also plays a significant role in the depth of field and sharpness of the image. This has always been the hardest to wrap my head around. Aperture is in fractions so f/1.4 is bigger than f/16. I could not seem to get that the smaller the number the bigger the hole. I finally "got it" when I realized the bigger the number the more the blades are closed. Thus, less light is getting in. That may seem silly to some, but it is how I can easily remember what the numbers mean. There is also a mantra that Pam Hoaglund suggested might help: The bigger the number (f/16), the smaller the opening, the greater the depth of field – the smaller the number (f/1.4), the bigger the opening, the smaller the depth of field.

The max. and min. aperture of the lens is defined by a value known as "F-stop". The larger the F-stop number is, the smaller/narrower the aperture and vice versa. This number follows a sequence like this:



The larger the aperture the larger amount of both foreground and background blur. The smaller the aperture results in a smaller amount of background blur. Since

aperture will affect your depth of field it is better to select the aperture yourself manually or by selecting aperture-priority mode (A on Sony or Nikon and Av on Canon) and manual is M. Your camera itself is not where the aperture changes, it is the lens because that is where those blades exist. So



lowest and highest aperture capabilities may be different

(Continued from page 8)

from lens to lens. Therefore, someone may have the exact same camera but can get to a lower or higher aperture than your camera.

Aperture can affect many parts of your image: the brightness, sharpness (due to diffraction or lens quality), create starburst effects, visibility of objects (wanted or unwanted), and bokeh.

Diffraction is that little bothersome thing that, as a beginner, can make you ready to give up on setting your camera to aperture priority or going manual. When you want everything as sharp as possible you believe you should go with your lens's smallest aperture (f/22 or f/32) but that causes diffraction. By selecting a tiny aperture, you are "squeezing" the light that passes through your lens which may cause it to be blurry at the edges. When aperture does this, it can become an issue, but it depends on a number of factors, including the size of your camera sensor and the size of your print. So, when you are using your smallest aperture and your images keep coming out blurry this might be the issue.

The starburst effect is created by the aperture blades in

The Aperture Blades of Iris Diaphragms

6 blades 7 blades (not round)

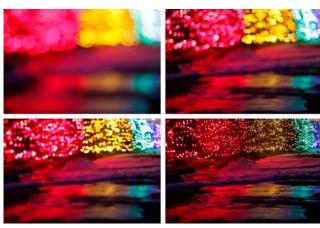
7 blades (round) 9 blades

your lens. It only happens when your image has a small, bright point of light that is partially blocked. It will look different from lens to lens depending on the number of blades. If your lens has an even number of blades you will get that many beams of light, but if you have an odd number of blades you will get twice as many as

the number because with an even number the beams of light will overlap.

Setting your aperture to a smaller number (f/11 or above) can add unwanted items to your image. By selecting a large depth of field things like a water drop on your lens while shooting a waterfall or a fence when shooting at Wolf Haven will be in focus. Instead, try different larger f-stops to "hide" the problem (https://youtu.be/0sOS4DOSJ9s).

Bokeh is the quality/amount/shape of background blur in an image. Different aperture settings will change the shape of your background blur due to the shape of your blades. Larger aperture settings (such as f/1.8) often are



rounder compared to smaller aperture settings. Each lens will be different, so if you are hoping to achieve a certain blur you will need to test the lens you plan to use.

It is also important to know that with some zoom lens the aperture will change as you zoom in and out because the lens may not support the widest (smaller number) at all focal lengths. This can, as with most camera gear, be resolved by spending more on the lens. If you are aware of the problem with your lens you can adjust as needed.

https://photographylife.com/photography-basics https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YojL7UQTVhc https://www.youtube.com/watch? v=EdxKl5np9KE&list=PLG3eOzJfQr2e2OD4W0GmcSp O5oZ-c5Flu&index=5 https://thesunnystha.wordpress.com/2017/07/12/photo-with-blurry-background/ https://www.slrlounge.com/flash-photography-tips-and-tricks-starburst-effect-full-tutorial/ http://www.boostyourphotography.com/2013/12/ bokeh.html



Traveling Images

by Colleen Easley

The voting for the September traveling images has been completed for the Northwest Council of Camera Clubs Traveling Image competition. The top images from the Olympic Peaks Camera Club received the following scores:

Nighttime Impala 23 points
Heavenly Morning 22 points
Ripples 15 points
Bird Talk 7 points
Sunrise Cape Disappointment 7 points

The images are shown below.

The NWCCC Traveling Images competition has ended for this year. Final results will be announced at the NWCCC Annual Conference on November 11.

We hope you will consider submitting some images to the 2023-24 competition. Details on that will be available next month.











Travel Tips

by Bill Ballard

During my recent three-week trip to New England it rained a lot. Actual the rain and dark overcast created some good photo opportunities. Here are a few tips I use when dealing with rain and dust when traveling.

- 1. Use a lens puffer. When mist, rain drops or dust gets on the lens, blowing those to the outside edge of the lens works great and leaves no streaks. The puffer I use all the time.
- 2. Carry a few clear plastic freezer bags to keep gear dry and clean if caught in the rain or dusty conditions.
- 3. Carry a small pop-up umbrella. I got one from Walmart for \$9. In rain and a little wind, it does a nice job. Holding the small light umbrella in one hand and camera in the other the rain stays off both camera and lens.
- This last tip pertains to travel, rain or shine. When I travel, I want to make sure I come back with the best images of those special scenes. I may never be back to that area again. To do that, I take a normally exposed shot, then switch the camera mode to custom where I have set up HDR. I have it set for five shots, one stop exposure spread per shot with ISO at 400 and aperture priority at f 5.6. In cloudy conditions this setting works pretty well. After switching to custom, I can change the F-stop and ISO as required by lighting and depth of focus needs. But for those scenes I really want to capture, I do one or two HDR sequence shots. When home, I can decide which of the images to use, what to discard, and what if any I want to actually do an HDR composite. This way I will end up with a good image.



New Private Facebook Group

by Colleen Easley

After some discussion, the Board decided that a private Facebook Group comprised of only members in good standing of the Olympia Camera Club would be beneficial for promoting club activities, announcing spontaneous outings, asking for critique on our photos, and posting about anything else Club related that we didn't necessarily want to broadcast to the 1000+ members of our public group. The group is named *OCC Members Only*. Some of you have already received invites to join the group. The rest of you will be sent invites over the next few weeks. If you're anxious to join, please email me at ceasley@me.com and ask for an invite.

Annual Holiday Party Save The Date

by Linda Pardee

December 19, 2023
Black Lake Grange - click for map
6011 Black Lake Blvd SW
Olympia, WA 98512
Setup: 5:30 pm – Dinner at 6 pm

Linda Pardee will be coordinating the potluck dinner. Please sign up for the dish you'd like to bring using the directions below. As I mentioned last year, I will need more help in meal prep this year and setting up. If you're interested call me at 360-594-4884.

Instead of white elephant gifts, pick out and print one of your favorite images of the past year and we will trade photo's as we have done with gifts in the past. Photos should be ready to hang; meaning framed or mounted, and wrapped.

Linda will need 4-6 volunteers to be there at 5:30 to help set up tables and help get ready. She will also need 4-6 volunteers to help clean up and put tables away.

If you have questions, please call Linda at (360) 584-4884 or e-mail her at at LindaKayPardee@outlook.com.



Member Gallery























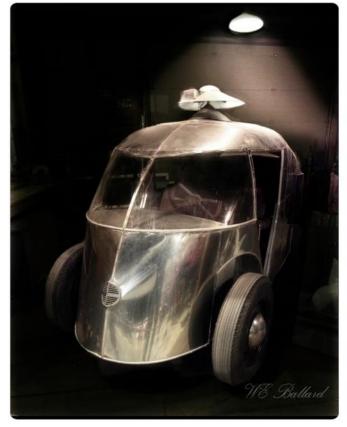








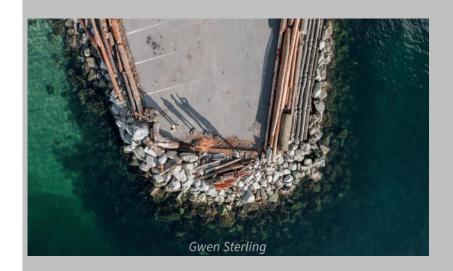




















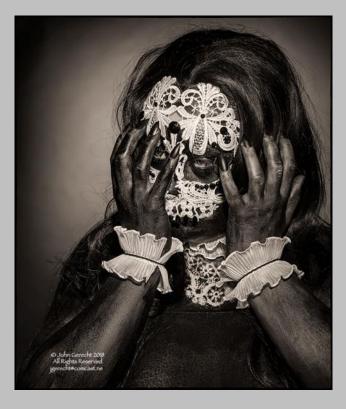
Member Gallery October Themed











Photographic Society of America (PSA)

PSA is a worldwide organization for anyone with an interest in photography. Founded in 1934, the Society is for casual shutterbugs, serious amateurs, and professional photographers.

Individual digital membership is \$45 a year.

Membership offers a wide variety of services and activities:

- 1. Monthly Journal
- 2. Online photo galleries
- 3. Image evaluation
- 4. Study groups and courses
- 5. Competitions
- 6. Annual Conference
- 7. Discounts on photography-related products/services
- 8. PSA travel aide
- 9. Webinars

For a complete overview of membership benefits go to www.psa-photo.org



Sizing Images for Newsletter

Format: jpeg, max quality

Dimension: 1024 - 2048 pix long side Please keep images 3MB or less

Please title your image and include your name in title

Title Your Name

Please Watermark your image!

All photographs in this newsletter are under copyright protection. They may not be used without permission from the individual photographers. Please submit articles and photographs to: newsletter@olympiacameraclub.org

Deadline for articles and images for the November newsletter is November 9 at midnight.

Editor's Note:

Please continue to submit images and articles to the newsletter as it is your participation that helps me provide you with a newsletter each month.



Susan Bradley, Editor newsletter@olympiacameraclub.org

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NWCCC Traveling Print & Open Salon Competitions

Colleen Easley and Rosalind Phillips

Field Trip Coordinator

Terri Hoselton

Membership
Colleen Easley

Practical Photography

Gene Pardee

Member Sharing Night

Don Dimitratos

Newsletter Editor

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Pam Hoaglund

Thurston County Fair

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Gerald Pumphery

NWCCC Liaison

Ed Tromble

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Colleen Easley

Social Committee

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