



Shutterbug Times

Official Newsletter of the Olympia Camera Club

Olympia, WA

Established in 1935

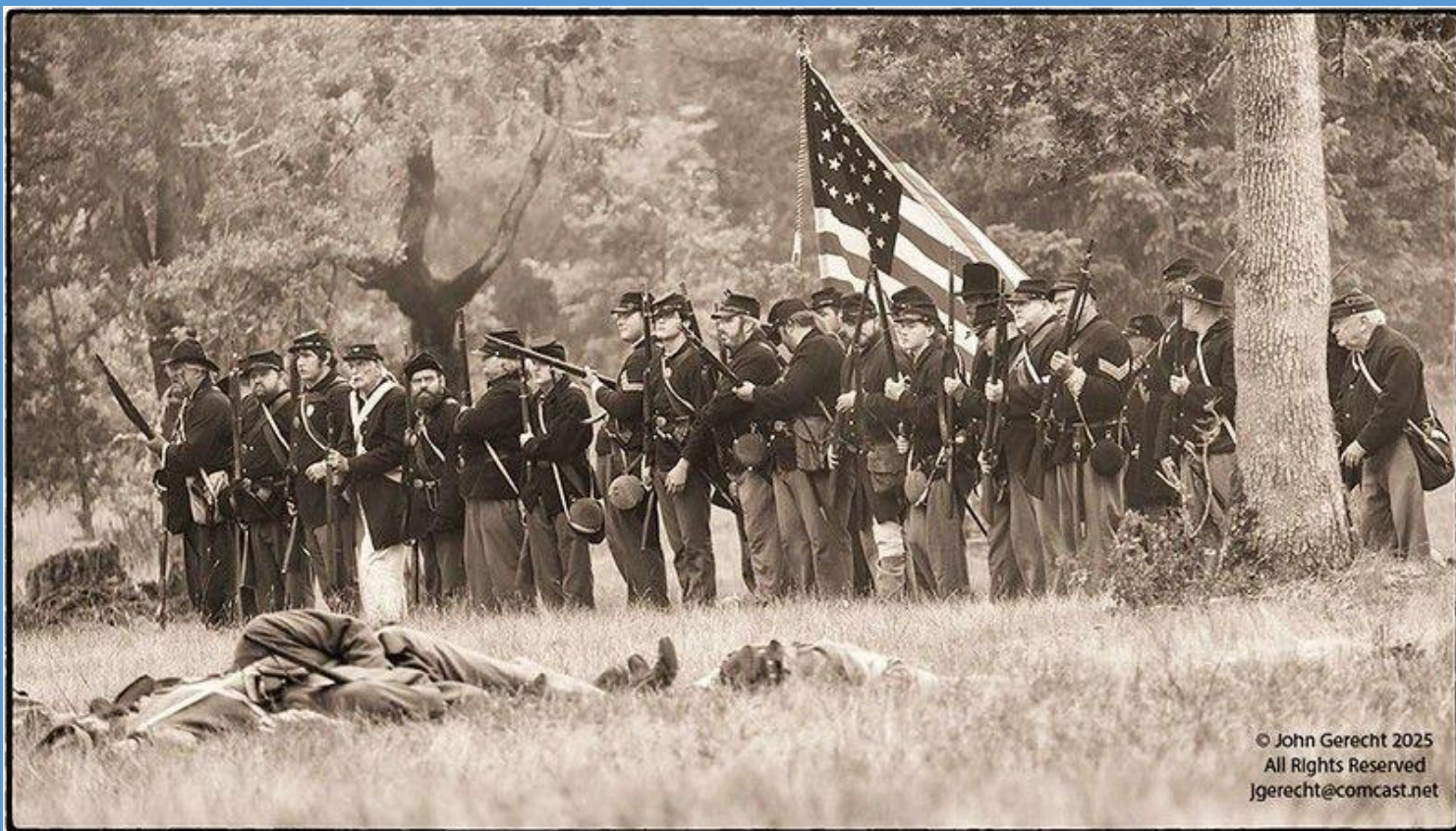
September 2025

www.olympiacameraclub.org

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

Civil War in Yelm



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Cover Image by
John Gerech

President's Corner

Our summer "break" is over for another year, and we'll be restarting the full slate of club activities this month. We had a respectable response to the member survey. While a bit over 25% doesn't sound that good, I did a little investigation and typical response rates to surveys fell between 5 and 30%, so we did pretty well. If you've thought of suggestions for activities, programs, field trips or anything else since the survey closed, please let someone on the board know. We're more than eager to get input and try new ideas to make the club better. We'll also be taking half an hour during the September Practical Meeting to solicit input that might have been missed by the member survey.

One suggestion I've seen that I like is to make our Practical sessions more hands-on activities than lectures. It will take a bit more work to get them going, but we had a reasonable number of people who expressed a willingness to serve on the Practical committee and quite a few people who volunteered to lead sessions, so I think it can work.

One disappointment in the survey's response was the continued blank we're drawing on finding someone willing to understudy Ros as equipment manager. I think we probably have a pretty re-

spectable count of folks that are sufficiently computer savvy to do so. If we could get a couple of people to work with her it would really reduce her workload and the necessity for her to be at every meeting. I helped her out this past year when she was having hand surgery, and if I could do it, it can't be very hard.

One thing I forgot to have added to the survey this year is to ask who might be willing to help Chuck Hall, our VP identify and contact potential speakers for our General Meetings in 2026 (not that far away now). If you're interested, please contact either Chuck or me. Email or texting probably works best, as like most of us these days, I don't respond to phone calls from unrecognized numbers, though I do check for voice mails. And remember, you can always join a board meeting to bring up ideas. They're at 6:30 pm on the first Tuesday of the month and we use the regular club Zoom account.

Let's all get off to a big start this year and participate in as many events as possible. I look forward to seeing all of you soon.

**Dates to Remember**

Club meetings will be virtual on Zoom except for Practical will be hybrid

September

9 September Practical Photography
16 September Member Sharing
23 September General Meeting
26 September Field Trip to Center Valley Rescue

October

7 October Board Meeting
9 October Articles and Images due for Newsletter
14 October Practical Photography
18 October Field Trip to St. Ignatius Hospital
21 October Member Sharing
28 October General Meeting

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

The Zoom link is available on the OCC Website in the
Members Only Area - Zoom Link

Practical Photography
September 9, 2025
7-9 pm

Nik Silver Efex is the most popular black and white conversion software. It is mostly accessible as a plug-in compatible with Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Photoshop Elements, Adobe Lightroom Classic, Serif Affinity Photo and DxO PhotoLab. It is also a stand-alone software program. 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

Rick Flegel, Coordinator



Member Sharing Night
September 16, 2025
7-9 pm

The subject will be "The Normal Lens". Put on a normal lens and look at the world through just that lens. The normal lens is what used to be called the standard lens. We have cameras now with a variety of formats. The normal lens focal length will vary with the camera's format. For full frame cameras the normal lens focal length is 50mm, for cropped sensor cameras aka APS a normal would be around 35mm and for four thirds cameras 25mm is standard. You may not have a fixed lens with a standard focal length, but I will wager that the majority of photographers have a zoom that covers that focal length. Just go on a photo expedition and take photos at the standard focal length.

Don Dimitratos Coordinator



General Meeting
September 23, 2025
7-9 pm

Ray Hennessey

Please join us for a presentation discussing post processing for Wildlife Photography. I know many of us are always looking for that special shot of elusive wildlife, and then we need to take that picture and turn it into art. I look forward to some really good hints at how to do that during this meeting. To learn more about our speaker, turn to page 4. Hope to see you all there.

Chuck Hall, Coordinator



Field Trip to Center Valley Animal Rescue

September 26, 2025

10 am – 2 pm

Field Trip Leader: Susan Bradley

<https://centervalleyanimalrescue.org/>

Center Valley Animal Rescue (CVAR) has 32 acres of pastures, ponds, barns and shelters for large animals. There is a central building to house the smaller animals.

The two big reasons that CVAR is different than other shelters:



They have a wide variety of animals here...reptiles, exotic birds, snakes, cat and dogs, chinchillas, bunnies, all farm animals, goats, sheep, lama, alpaca, pigs, cattle, etc. Most everything.

That 90% of the animals come from cruelty cases... abuse, neglect, abandonment, hoarding, etc. They have been failed by humans in their lives thus far. Once they arrive, they are likely on the mend.

CVAR also has wildlife that have been injured and are there for rehab and release. We will not have access to wildlife for photos while we are there. Only a very limited number of staff assist in the wildlife area.

There will be a basic orientation talk before we go take photos.

Signup is required for this field trip as there is a limit of 20 people. Parking is tight so we will meet at the Hood Canal Ranger Office (295142 US-101, Quilcene, WA 98376) at 9:45 am and then carpool from there.

The ground is uneven and muck boots (or at least closed-toed shoes) are necessary. You will be asked to step into a foot bath before entering the area.

General Meeting Speaker

Ray Hennesey

While I strive to capture my bird photograph the best I can in camera, there is no denying that for my style of bird photography post processing can take a very good photo and make it great. Join me as I share some of the more common techniques, I use to elevate my bird photos, and I'll also walk you through the process from start to finish while I edit a few select photos and make them look their best.



Starting in 2007, my fascination with wildlife photography started as a passionate hobby that eventually transformed into my full-time career. Since 2020, I've embraced a nomadic lifestyle, living in a van and traveling across the United States and Canada to capture breathtaking natural landscapes and wildlife. My focus lies in using creative lighting and captivating compositions to create unique images of the animals I encounter.

I have been lucky enough to visit countless awe-inspiring locations, which I strive to incorporate my signature style of wildlife photography by capturing more scenic images that showcase the habitats where these animals live. Beyond capturing photos, I also enjoy sharing my knowledge and experience with aspiring photographers. I've had the privilege of working with students both in-person and remotely from various parts of the world, guiding them and accelerating their techniques and artistic refinement.

Every workshop I lead is an opportunity for me to share my expertise and help others grow their wildlife photography skills. I hope that my guidance and mentorship leave a lasting impact on each participant, inspiring them to pursue their passion and capture the beauty of the natural world through their lens.

Get Ready for Our Oct Member Sharing

By Don Dimitratos

For October (I wanted to give us plenty of time for this subject) the subject will be "Camouflage or Where's Waldo". In nature we have many instances of camouflage. The Where's Waldo aspect may be a photo with something that may not be readily discernable. The author of the photo may give us hints either in the title or during the meeting.

Field Trip to Nancy's Garden Report

by Terri Hoselton

A big thank you goes out to Nancy and Dan for hosting OCC members at their property for this month's field trip. Twelve members gathered together to photograph a variety of art work, native and garden plants, mushrooms, and the occasional insect. A bit of rain tried to chase us away but did not succeed. Lots of great conversation was had and many ideas were shared. Nancy and Dan even had a few photography stations set up so that members could try new techniques, such as using a light pad as a background for flowers.

**Save The Date: Field Trip to
St. Ignatius Hospital
Oct 18, 2025, 2 to 4 pm
Field Trip Leader: Susan Bradley
Cost: \$35**

<https://stignatiuscolfax.com/>

This field trip is limited to 16 people in the building. We will need to prepurchase our \$35 tickets and complete an online waiver before arriving. Please remember to print out your waiver and bring it with you. Here is the link to buy tickets.

<https://fareharbor.com/embeds/book/stignatiuscolfax/items/493436/availability/1792932509/book/?full-items=yes>

We will take a self-guided tour throughout this 50,000 square foot historic hospital. Bring a flashlight as there are dark areas in the building worth exploring. You should consider packing a tripod for low light situations. There will be a docent available to answer questions. The best (most interesting images) are on the 3rd and 4th floors but there is no elevator so be prepared to haul yourself and your gear upstairs. I would appreciate people signing up on our [signup sheet](#) also as a way to contact you directly if there is an emergency change of plans or to maybe set up some before or after photo opportunities.



It is a long drive from Olympia, but I believe this is worth the drive. There are hotels in Colfax and an RV park (<https://rvparkcolfax.com/>), but I am not sure of availability at the RV park. I plan to spend a few nights in Colfax and have some ideas for fun photo opportunities in the area that don't include the usual suspects that the Palouse Valley offers.

If we get a clear night while we are there, we might try for a night shoot at a church. It is about an hour from Colfax but offers us a church on a hill with a clear background. I also will have a list of photo-worthy stops in the area that you may not be aware of and more places to go on your way to and from Colfax. If interested in the list email me and I will send it to you with a map.



DropBox

by Colleen Easley

Over the summer a problem occurred with the **OCC Member Sharing Dropbox folder**. I still show you all as members of the folder, but you may not see it in your list of folders. This could become a big problem when we start Member Sharing meetings again on September 16, so I want to try to resolve it now.



There are two possible solutions. One is to go online to your Dropbox account and click on **Home** in the far-left column, then in the next menu to right, look for **Shared**. I think you'll see the OCC Member Sharing folder under **Shared** and if you click on that, you'll get your access back.

The other option is to click on this [link](#). It should take you to the folder. Please let me know if you cannot make either of these options work. ceasley@me.com

NPPNW Fall Conference

Nov. 8, 2025

Vancouver, WA

by Gerald Pumphrey

NATURE PHOTOGRAPHERS
NPPNW
OF THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST

The Nature Photographers of the Pacific Northwest will hold its Fall 2025 meeting at Clark College in Vancouver WA on November 8. Please note this has been rescheduled from the usual first Saturday in November to avoid conflict with Halloween celebrations. The speaker will be Susan Dimock of Bandon, Oregon.

Her morning presentation will be *Oceanscapes, Large and Small*, and her afternoon talk will be on *Developing Your Visual Voice*. NPPNW will sponsor a field trip to the Portland Japanese Garden on Friday, November 7.

Full details for the meeting are available at NPPNW.org.

A Month of Photo Opportunities

by Susan Bradley

Bucoda Washington offers a photo opportunity every weekend during the month of October. It is called Boo-Coda Spooktacular. What started as a haunted house fundraiser in a gym has turned into a month-long freaky fest that's only getting bigger and badder—it even won the Washington Festival and Events Association 2021 (Best South Puget Sound Festival) award.



The town transforms into a celebration of all things morbid, from haunted houses to trick-or-treating, with parades and vendor fairs. The town hears, purchased for marketing purposes and helmed by Bucoda's friendly undertaker, can be seen driving slowly through town. Although the dates and times for all events hasn't been set yet, just keep checking their websites (<https://boo-coda.com/> or <https://bucoda.us/>) as the dates get closer. I am not sure if both sites will be updated. It appears that they are moving to the new website.

This is a wonderful opportunity to capture people. Everyone seems to expect to have their photo taken and many like to be asked to pose. Don't miss this chance to have some photography fun.



Kinetic Sculpture Race

by Ed Tromble

I love photographing people at their favorite events, especially if the event in question includes costumes and home-made vehicles. One such event I never miss is the Kinetic Sculpture Race held in Port Townsend yearly on the first weekend in October.

This race has been going on in Port Townsend since 1983 and pits vehicles that can only be described as examples of human powered artistic engineering against each other. These contraptions must be able to navigate the road, water, sand, and mud portions of the course.

Needless to say, there are many good opportunities for fun and photos. This is a two-day event and the race is broken up as follows.

On day one racers will stage their vehicles downtown near the legion hall and center for wooden boats at 10 am. This is a great time to wander around, talk to the racers and admire the machines. At around noon the parade loops thru town and ends up where it started after the brake and safety test on the nearby hill. Next will be the water course. Racers will enter the water next to the center for wooden boats and proceed to the public dock downtown to get a token and return.



Day two starts back outside the legion hall at 10 am where each race team must perform a song for the public and take a sobriety test (there is a big party on Saturday night) and head for the sand course at Fort Worden. After that, the racers will proceed to the fairgrounds, take on the mud course and head to the finish.

I usually attend both days but if I had to choose one day over the other, I would go on Saturday to mingle, take photos of the parade and the water events. For lenses I bring a short zoom such as a 24/70 and a long lens for the water and mud events. Join me and have some fun.

Fifth Tuesday Event

by Dennis Plank

This month has **five** Tuesdays, so to celebrate, we are having a special Zoom meeting on September 30 dedicated to developing our skills in critiquing photographs. Rather than critiquing one another's work in this one, we'll be using this month's NWCCC traveling images as the source for our critiques. This is a great opportunity to develop your critiquing skills in a forum where you can't hurt anyone's feelings with your comments and learn how to give critiques that, while not painless, should be taken in the constructive spirit in which they are given. We've put some resources on critiquing in the Member's Sharing folder in Dropbox under the **September 5th Tuesday** folder.

If you have resources on this subject that you'd like to share, please feel free to put them in that folder.

Over the years our club has had this discussion many times with many articles and presentations that have been put together for our members. To read the articles that might help you to critique your or other members images look online at our website for the Oct 2021, Nov 2021, April 2022, May 2022, Oct 2024, June 2025, and Aug 2025 newsletters. Each has an article that discusses what to look for and how to critique someone else's images.

You can dive even deeper into learning about what makes an image with the videos on our website (Members Only Area/Resources/Meeting Notes & Videos). The videos I would recommend are: Training Your Eye; Image Evaluation; Seeing the Unseen to Craft Better Landscape Images; and Choosing Images for Competition. Below the list of videos are some Fundamentals Group slides showing presentations given about Composition and Demystifying Print Competitions that might help you. Finally, there is a PDF file at the very bottom of the list titled, Critiquing Images.



Membership Report

by Colleen Easley

Our 2025 membership is now up to 172 members—and we're excited to welcome six members who joined (or re-joined) us this past month:

Linda Carpenter
Fred Hardyway (renewal)
Terry Liberty (former member)
Michael Matlock
John McClung (renewal)
Joni Wolpert

Please join us in giving them a warm Olympia Camera Club welcome! We're glad to have you with us.



Welcome!

We are glad you are here!

NWCCC Report

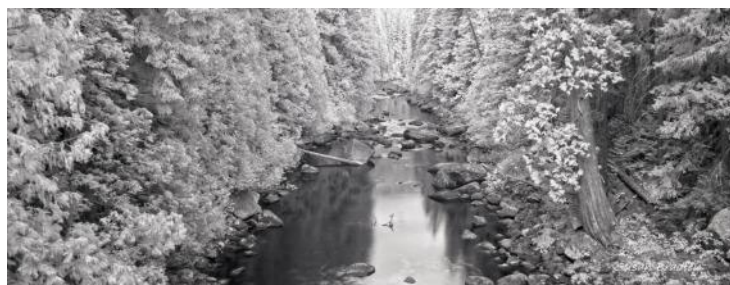
submitted by Rene' L. Conger



There have been two special board meetings called in regard to the NWCCC Fall Conference. Word has already gotten out that the Digital and Print Competitions and Registration are open for attendees.

We will have a Delegates Meeting on October 25, 2025. An email will be forthcoming with the information. There will be Assistant Positions on the Board opening up this year. Technical manuals will be created for this.

Our next board meeting will be on September 12, 2025, at 7:00 pm.



PSA Photo Festival Portland, OR September 24 – 27, 2025

Registration for the PSA Photo Festival 2025 in Portland Oregon opened on 1 April. Onsite registration opens on September 22, 2025.

Click here for online registration: [Link](#)

The following are the fee levels:

Level 1: \$200 – Early bird full festival member fee (1 April – 30 April 2025.)

Level 2: \$225 – Full festival member registration (if you don't register in April)

Level 3: \$325 – Non-member full registration

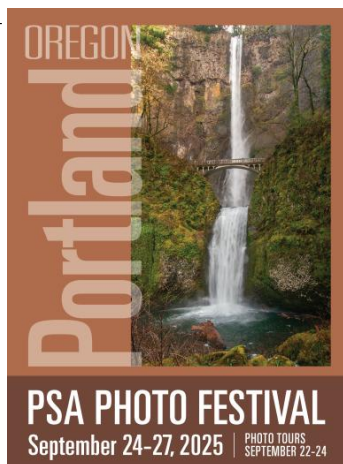
Level 4: \$99 – one day pass – Wednesday

Level 5: \$99 – one day pass – Thursday

Level 6: \$99 – one day pass – Friday

Level 7: \$99 – one day pass – Saturday

Level 8: \$255 – Onsite registration for members (22 September 2025)



Refund Policy: There will be no refunds after August 15, 2025.

Not a member of PSA? [Join now](#) and save \$80 on the registration fee if you register before May 31, 2025.

Mt. Rainier Photo Workshop with Art Wolfe July 27-30, 2026

submitted by Susan Bradley

Join legendary photographer Art Wolfe July 2026 for an immersive small group photography workshop set against the awe-inspiring backdrop of Mount Rainier. Known for its dramatic landscapes and fleeting summer blooms, Mount Rainier offers a variety of opportunities for photographers of all skill levels.

Timed to coincide with the peak of the wildflower season, this workshop will



guide you through alpine meadows bursting with color—vibrant lupine, paintbrush, and avalanche lilies creating dreamlike compositions beneath the towering peak of Rainier. Early risers will be rewarded with a serene sunrise session, where the mountain glows with soft pastels and golden light spills across the valleys.

Throughout the workshop, we'll explore iconic waterfalls, forested trails, and hidden vantage points, with opportunities to capture the mood and majesty of this Pacific Northwest gem. Wildlife sightings are always a possibility—keep your lens ready for marmots, deer, and perhaps even a fox crossing the trail.

With Art's expert guidance, you'll refine your creative vision, improve your technical skills, and come away with a deeper appreciation for photographing nature in all its fleeting beauty. Whether you're looking to build your portfolio or simply reconnect with the natural world through your camera, this workshop promises inspiration at every turn.

Also, we have a permit to conduct this workshop in the National Park. This means we do not have to worry about the timed entry system that has been set up. Giving us freedom to enter the park whenever we like.

This small group workshop will fill up quickly [sign up](#) today to secure your space!

Early Bird Special Through September 30, 2025!
(Discount already applied to total, regular price \$2,950)

Reserve Your Spot Today

Led by Art Wolfe and Gavriel Jecan

Limited to 10 participants

Minimal hiking involved

Transportation and Accommodation

Participants are responsible for their own transportation, lodging and meals.

Shooting schedules have the ability to be altered to effectively cater to the photographic desires of the group, as well as to adapt to changeable weather conditions.



4C's Annual Convention at the PSA Photo Festival

submitted by Susan Bradley

The Columbia Council of Camera Clubs (4C's) is excited to announce that its Annual Convention will be held as part of the Photographic Society of America (PSA) Photo Festival in 2025. This vibrant collaboration brings together photography enthusiasts from across the Pacific Northwest and beyond for a celebration of the photographic arts, hosted in the dynamic city of Portland, Oregon, from September 24–27, 2025, at the Holiday Inn Portland-Columbia.



The 4C's, a regional coalition of photography clubs, is a proud member of the PSA, a global organization dedicated to advancing photography through education, competitions, and community engagement. The PSA Photo Festival is a premier annual event that attracts photographers of all skill levels, offering workshops, keynote presentations, photo tours, and networking opportunities. This year, the 4C's is integrating its Annual Convention into the festival, creating a unique opportunity for members to connect, learn, and showcase their work within a larger, international photographic community.

The PSA Photo Festival will feature renowned speakers, including industry leaders like Jeff Schewe, and Tim Grey, who will share insights on topics ranging from Fine Art photography to Landscape & Nature. Attendees can explore the PSA's extensive Print Collection, participate in division business meetings, and engage with photography vendors showcasing the latest gear and services. The festival will conclude with a formal banquet honoring top photographers and PSA volunteers.

Highlights of the 4C's Annual Convention

By hosting its convention within the PSA Photo Festival, the 4C's offers its members access to an enriched program tailored to the Pacific Northwest photography community while benefiting from the festival's global reach. Key highlights include:

Special 4C's Sessions: Exclusive presentations for 4C's members, focusing on club competitions.

Networking Opportunities: Connect with fellow 4C's members, PSA photographers from over 80 countries, and industry professionals to share knowledge and build lasting relationships.

Registration Details

To attend the 4C's Annual Convention and the PSA Photo Festival, registration is required through the PSA website at psaphotoworldwide.org. Both PSA members and non-members are welcome to attend, making this an inclusive event for all photography enthusiasts.

Why Attend?

The 4C's Annual Convention within the PSA Photo Festival is a must-attend event for photographers looking to elevate their skills, connect with a global community, and celebrate the art of photography. Whether you're a casual shutterbug, a serious amateur, or a professional photographer, this event offers unparalleled opportunities to learn from world-class speakers, participate in competitions, and immerse yourself in the vibrant culture of photography.

Don't miss this chance to be part of a historic collaboration between the 4C's and PSA.

For more information about the 4C's, visit 4cs-photo.org. To explore the full range of PSA activities, including competitions and educational programs, check out psaphotoworldwide.org.

Phototunities September – October 2025

No endorsement of any photo opportunity or location is implied.
Please follow-up with your own research.

Tacoma Rainiers, Cheney Stadium, Tacoma, WA
September 2 – 21, 2025, Ticket prices: \$22.60 – \$24.65
<https://www.wertacoma.com/tacoma-rainiers/>

Columbia Pacific Dahlia Show, Ilwaco, WA
September 12 – 13, 2025, Free
<https://www.evergreencoastwa.com/event/columbia-pacific-dahlia-show/>

Luminata (parade of lanterns), Green Lake, Seattle, WA
September 20, 2025, Free
<https://fremontartscouncil.org/luminata>

The Great Prosser Balloon Rally, Prosser Airport, Prosser, WA
September 26 – 28, 2025, Free
<https://www.prosserballoonrally.org/index.html>

(Continued from page 9)

Sculpture Walk, Kubota Gardens, Seattle, WA
September 27 - 28, 2025, Free
<https://www.facebook.com/events/368327809620993>

The Great Port Townsend Bay Kinetic Sculpture Race,
Port Townsend, WA
October 4 - 5, 2025, Free
<https://ptkineticrace.org/>

National Wildlife Refuges in Washington for Birding and
Photography
https://www.fws.gov/locations?type=%5B%22National%20Wildlife%20Refuge%22%5D&state_name=%5B%22Washington%22%5D&activities=%5B%22Birding%22,%22Photography%22%5D

Evergreen Coast Birds & Wildlife, Pacific County, WA
<https://www.evergreencoastwa.com/things-to-do/wildlife/>

Fort Worden State Park, Port Townsend, WA
<https://parks.wa.gov/find-parks/state-parks/fort-worden-historical-state-park>

Point Wilson Lighthouse, Port Townsend, WA
<https://www.pointwilsonlighthouse.org>

VP Musings

A couple of weeks ago I submitted a list of ideas for increasing club activity and membership to Dennis, as he was trying to respond to a request from the Tacoma club for a meeting to discuss possible ideas that would benefit both of our clubs.



Now, I just wanted to add some introductory comments to the list of suggestions I have drawn up and will be presented at the board meeting. First this is a work in progress, and as long as I am active it will probably grow.

Secondly, I'm not naive enough to realize that many if not all of these ideas have been addressed before, and were either tried and didn't work out, or are in place today and I just haven't seen the activity yet; Or were dismissed as not practical or of no interest to the board members.

--- BUT ---

Time has passed. The club size appears to be maintaining a somewhat constant size, but as we look around, how many young people do you see participating. Is it time to revisit some of these ideas, and keep an open mind toward developing one or more of them? We need to draw more young blood into the club for it to be able

to sustain itself. We see the problems we have, as well as what happened to the Sequim club, and recently a request from the Tacoma club to brainstorm ideas to help keep our clubs going.

We need new ideas and ways to approach our members. Apparently asking for volunteers isn't working, and to be truthful, in my experience with various clubs and organizations I have participated in, it doesn't work! We need some way to get people involved. This may be tapping people on the shoulder and trying to get them involved, provide a monetary incentive (i.e., reduced or exemption from dues for the year(s) they work on a committee or project). Can you think of other incentives? I understand we have a goodly amount of donated, or club owned equipment not being used - could that be used as an incentive?

I'm trying to put my thinking cap on and see if I can help the club raise not only awareness to others about the club, but also to encourage others to become involved in activities. I know most of us are in our later years and may not have much time to spare for club activities, what with travel, families, etc. so let's see if we can work towards getting more involvement from those just sitting on the sidelines.

Hey, here is another idea that just struck me - OUCH! Ok, how about we contact local sports teams and ask if we could participate in photographing a game from their photo pits etc. Probably too late for the baseball teams for this year but trying could end up with positive results. Then of course there is football, basketball, track and other sporting events. I have a niece that is a gymnast and there are lots of people photographing their events, mainly families, but hey, it might be an opportunity. Dawn and others have also shown their successes photographing at rodeos. I went to the Roy rodeo a couple of years ago and got some great pictures. Oh, oh, oh, and then there are the Powwows. Some rules there but when approached properly and following the rules, the colors and movements and trappings are just fabulous. How about event trips to rodeos, powwows, etc.?

As your vice president, I want to help members become more involved in the club, get myself more involved in the club and its events, and help work with some of these ideas to help move them forward.

Please come to the meeting with POSITIVE thoughts, don't dwell on the past or NEGATIVE thoughts. Together we can continue to make this club a warm and pleasant experience for all. We all have a lot to learn - well maybe not all (LOL). But you get my drift. Please join me and let's see what we can get started.

Explore the Beauty and Story of Grasslands Through Your Lens!

by Annie Salafsky

Are you passionate about photographing rural landscapes, pasture-raised animals, fiber art, fall colors, agri-culture, and the human stories behind farm life?

Join Washington State University Extension and the Olympia Camera Club for the third in a series of immersive photography field trips to working ranches, livestock farms, and grassland reserves in Southwest Washington.

Upcoming Field Trip: Hercules Farm

Date: Thursday, October 23, from 9 am to 12 pm
Location: 4342 Old Military Rd SE, Tenino, WA 98589

Set against the vibrant backdrop of peak autumn, this visit will take us to Hercules Farm, a family-run operation in South Thurston County known for grass-fed lamb, turkeys, and wool products. The farm sits on the historic Hercules Number 2 Quarry, adding a layer of unique character to the landscape.

Your guide will be Faith Hagenhofer, a seasoned fiber artist and one of the farm's owners. Faith has worked with wool and natural plant dyes for over 25 years, crafting stunning felted works from her own flock's fleece.

What You'll Experience & Capture

This project celebrates the 2026 International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists (IYRP) and aims to highlight the ecological and cultural significance of grasslands through art and photography.

Participants are invited to capture images that explore:

- The natural beauty of grasslands; changing seasons, native species, and vast open spaces
- The lives of ranchers and farmers, their work, traditions, and stewardship



- Sustainable practices and conservation efforts protecting these essential ecosystems

The human-nature connection, both in harmony and in challenge

Your Photos, Your Story

Selected images (with permission) may be featured in rotating regional exhibitions at Timberline Regional Libraries, Olympia City Hall, and the Tenino Agriculture Innovation Park. In addition, images may be used for educational materials, presentations, and community outreach efforts. This is a chance to contribute to meaningful storytelling in support and celebration of grasslands and the people and animals that populate them.

What to Bring

- Sturdy boots for uneven or rocky terrain
- Water, weather-appropriate clothing (raincoat recommended)
- Suggested lenses: long, landscape, and macro
- Note: No dogs allowed – this is a working ranch

Restroom available on site

We look forward to seeing how you capture the rich, dynamic world of grasslands and the people who call them home. Let your lens tell the story of the land.

For questions: Please contact Annie Salafsky from WSU Thurston County at 360-791-8503 or anna.salafsky@wsu.edu



Field Trip Ideas

Compiled from the August 2025 Annual Planning Survey

by Jeff Martin

Here is a summary of this year's planning survey.

What days of the week can you attend field trips (40 responses)

Any day 35 (87.5%)

Weekdays 1 (2.5%)

Saturday 4 (10.0%)

Sunday 3 (7.5%)

Are you interested in participating in overnight trips (43 responses)

Yes 15 (34.9%)

No 4 (9.3%)

Maybe 24 (55.8%)

How many miles are you willing to drive (one way) for an overnight trip? (40 responses)

Up to 50 miles 4 (10.0%)

Up to 100 miles 12 (30.0%)

Up to 200 miles 10 (25%)

Up to 300 miles 10 (25.0%)

Over 300 miles 4 (10.0%)

Field Trip Ideas by Region

Near Olympia Outdoor

TESC campus, trails

Area around Hearth Fire restaurant

Local public and private gardens

Eagles along close by streams and rivers in the fall

Millersylvania SP

Nisqually Wildlife Refuge

Olympic Flight Museum

State Capital Grounds

Indoor

Portraits at a studio or at a grange

Plant nursery - such as Gordon's Market in Yelm

Still life

Indoor workshops similar to the waterdrop one. Focus stacking

Focus stacking practice with experienced roving instructors

Macro refraction photography workshop

Tabletop workshop

Fifth Tuesday activity such as still life using the grange

Washington State Capitol Building

State Capitol when it's decorated for Christmas

Touring old buildings would be great... churches, museums...

Puget Sound Region Outdoor

Rodeos (Summer)

Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden, Federal Way

Pacific Bonsai Museum, Federal Way

Tacoma Downtown

Seattle Waterfront

Mount Rainier

Crystal Mountain (Summer)

Waterfronts - including military and shipping.

Local town festivals

Soos creek botanical garden in Auburn

Mt. Rainier & Chinook Pass

Tall ships in Tacoma

Chihuly Garden and Glass – Seattle

Pike Place Market & Seattle Waterfront

Fox Island Fishing Pier

Dash Point Park & Pier - Dash Point State Park

Mt. Rainier Scenic Railroad

University of Washington Pack Forest

Northwest Trek Wildlife Park

Battle for Everson Farm - Civil War Reenactment

Everson Farm

Arlington Fly In

Bremerton to Seattle Ferry and return

USS Turner Joy & Puget Sound Navy Museum – Bremerton

Kitsap County Guillemot Cove Nature Reserve

Skagit Valley tulips & old barns

Harbor History Museum - Gig Harbor

Hood canal

Indoor

Any Museum

Boeing - The Museum of Flight

Chihuly Bridge of Glass & Museum of Glass – Tacoma

Washington State History Museum - Tacoma

Lemay-America's Car Museum

LeMay Auto Collections at Marymount

King Agriculture Museum

Olympic Peninsula

Waterfalls

Olympic Peninsula

San Juan Islands

Ruby Beach

Rialto Beach

Hurricane Ridge

Dungeness Spit

Dungeness River Nature Center

Lavender Festival

(Continued on page 13)

(Continued from page 12)

Port Townsend Boat Festival
 Bloedel Reserve
 Eutopos Farm and Gardens
 Washington beaches around Forks
 Whale watching trip out of Port Townsend or Port Angeles
 Audubon Center in Sequim
 7 Cedars Casino for Christmas lights
 Salt Creek county park
 Port Gamble

Pacific Coast

Mermaid Museum, Aberdeen area
 Pelagic bird watching trips out of Westport
 Westport
 North Head & Cape Disappointment Lighthouse during a storm

Southwest Washington

Mount St. Helens
 Chehalis-Centralia Railroad & Museum
 Northwest Carriage Museum (Raymond)

Eastern Washington

Palouse area
 Quilt Barns - Kittitas County

Oregon

Tom McCall Preserve at Rowena – Oregon (April or May)
 Summer Lake near Bend, OR
 Western Antique Aeroplane & Automobile Museum, Hood River, OR.

BigJig – a Puzzle Program

by Chuck Hall

At the General Meeting I was asked what my main interest in photography was, and if I was into photography or just 'lucked' into becoming vice president (LOL).

I have always enjoyed taking pictures starting with my mother's old brownie camera. Over the years I have owned many different cameras, with Minolta becoming my favorite film camera. Then came the 'Digital' age. I now have several cameras, mainly Canon, but also Nikon, Sony and others. Both mirrorless and not.

Ok, so what do I shoot? Oh, just about everything (LOL). If you went thru my photo albums you would see lots of pictures of my vacations, pictures of my won-

derful wife, lots of landscape pictures, street scenes, and the list could go on overlapping the bottom of this page (LOL).

Many years ago, I came across a Jigsaw puzzle program written by a young lady in Russia. It was a knockout program and continues to be today. She has now expanded into many other 'game' and 'board' types of software, all very well done. My Jigsaw program is called BigJig. It lets you solve puzzles on your own computer. She provides many puzzles for you to work with. You can choose the size of the pieces, the number of pieces for the puzzle you want to solve (20-4000 or so), shape sizes, rotation or not, borders or not, and other attributes. The second program that comes with BigJig is JigMake. With JigMake you can take any photo, picture, image you want and turn it into a jigsaw puzzle. I have several sites I go to and retrieve pictures to turn into puzzles, but I also make it a practice to make my own pictures whenever I am out with one of my cameras. It is so simple to make a puzzle, it will amaze you. One or two clicks and you are ready to solve the puzzle. I have only done 2000 pieces once, pieces were too small for my old eyes, but it was still a blast. I usually solve between 345 and 1000 depending on the subject of the photo.

The website for acquiring the puzzle is: lenagames.com

Current price is \$19.95, it was \$7.00 when I bought it many, many years ago – and all upgrades have been free. When you get to the site, just click on BigJig and go thru the entire page for all of its options etc.

A great free picture site for pictures from all over the world: encirclephotos.com. You will be presented with a menu of thousands of pics.

But HEY – shoot your own. Next time you go to shoot, look for targets that would make a good jigsaw puzzle. There are a million opportunities out there. I find street scenes, architecture, city views etc. to be my favorite puzzle pics to shoot.



Traveling Image Competition Update

by Colleen Easley

The votes are in for the August round of the Northwest Council of Camera Clubs (NWCCC) Traveling Image Competition! This month, we reviewed submissions from the Rainier Hills Photo Club, and their top-scoring images were:

12 Points - Hot House Light Painting

13 Points - East of the Rockies

13 Points - Old Violin

14 Points - Castle Rock Magnolia

15 Points - Coloring

These images are displayed below—take a look!

During September, it's our turn to vote on images from the Tacoma Photographic Society. You should have received an email with links to view the images and submit your votes. If not, you can access both directly at:

olympiacameraclub.org/nwccc-traveling-images

Voting deadline: **September 25** - this will be the last batch of photos we will vote on this year. Winners will be announced at the NWCCC annual conference in November.

Thanks for participating and helping support our fellow clubs!



Field Trip to Nancy’s Gallery



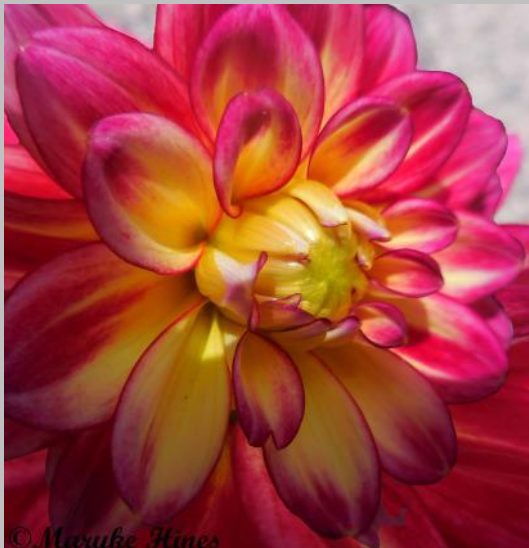
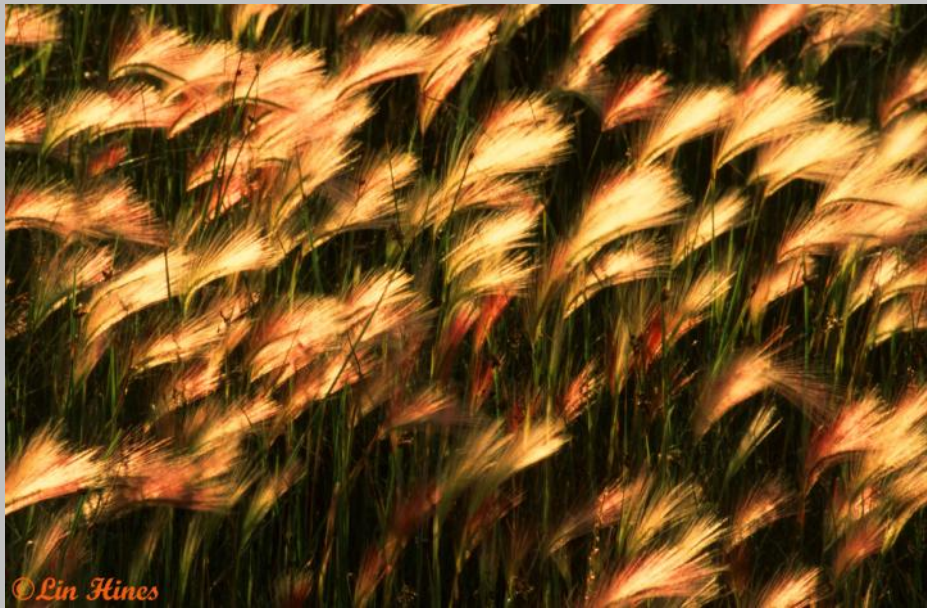
Field Trip to Nancy's Gallery continued



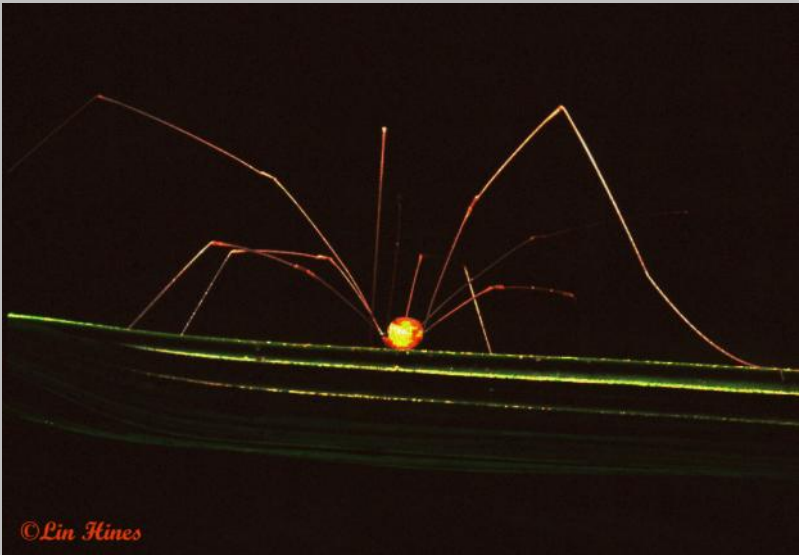
Field Trip to Nancy's Gallery continued



Member Gallery



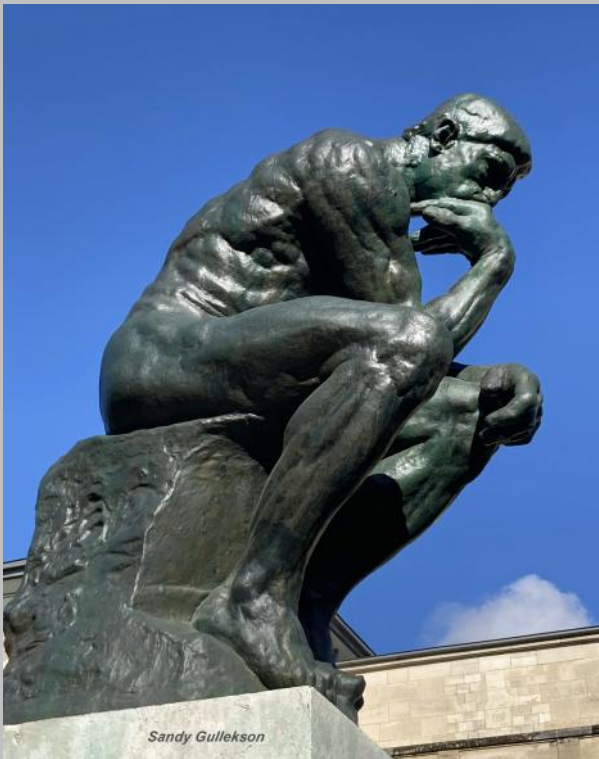
Member Gallery
continued



Member Gallery
continued



Member Gallery
continued



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.

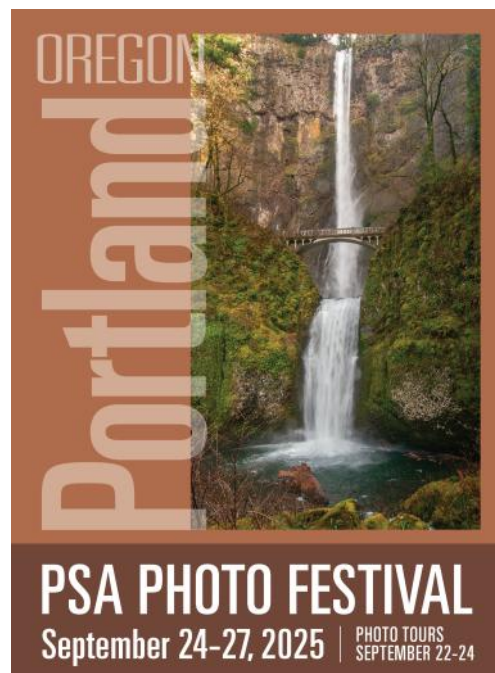
Membership offers a wide variety of services and activities:

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

<https://psaphotoworldwide.org/>

PSA Photo Festival



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 October newsletter is October 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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