



EXPOSURE

Wasatch Camera Club Newsletter



Highlights In This Issue...

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- * Member Profile
- * Competition Results
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- * Field Trips/Overnight Trips
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Current/Upcoming Events

- ♦ July 11 / 7:00pm - 1:00am (next day)
[Annual Astrophotography Field Trip to Lone Rock](#)
- ♦ July 15 / 6:30pm - 8:30pm (Zoom)
[A Very Short Course in Still Life Photography with Mark Battista](#)
- ♦ July 16 / 6:30pm - 8:30pm (Zoom)
[Shutter Up Social: The Mythic West](#)
- ♦ August 18 / 6:15pm - 8:30pm
Holladay Library
[2026 Annual Meeting](#)



2026 Annual Meeting

Join us for the annual meeting to hear the recap of this year's activities and to share ideas for next year's activities.

Date: August 18, 2026

Time: 6:15pm - 8:30pm

Location: Holladay Library
2150 East Murray Holladay Road

Agenda

6:15pm...Doors Open

6:15pm - 6:45pm...Meet & Greet

6:45pm - 8:15pm...Annual Meeting Presentation

- * Club Overview
- * Treasurer's Report
- * Membership & Mentoring Report
- * Overnight & Day Field Trips Report
- * Workshops & Presentation Report
- * Exhibits Report
- * Newsletter Report
- * PSA Report
- * Social Events Report
- * Competition Results & Prizes

8:15pm - 8:30pm...Q&A

8:30pm...Doors Close

[CLICK HERE](#) to register your attendance.

2025/2026 Competition Themes

[September](#) – Environmental Portrait (COMPLETE)

[November](#) – Color Isolation (COMPLETE)

[January](#) – Low Key/High Key Lighting (COMPLETE)

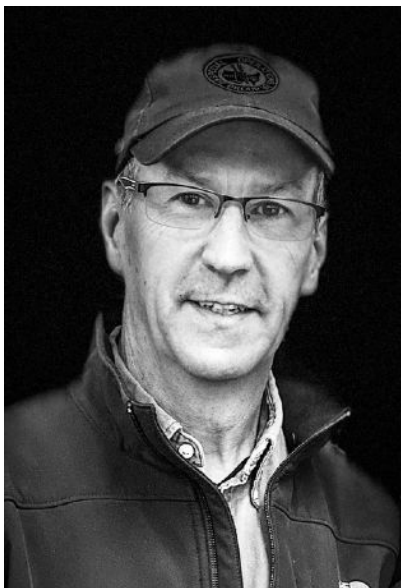
[March](#) – Intentional Camera Movement (COMPLETE)

[May](#) – Multiple Exposure (COMPLETE)



About the Cover Image

Rays of Hope by Jim Thompson



On a sunny day in June, I was again exploring the coast of northern California within the Redwoods National Park. I was searching for an area with fog rolling in from the Pacific and permeating a grove of giant redwoods trees. I had been to this particular grove the prior year, guided by my best friend, a Ranger for the National Park Service. That day, we had searched for blooming rhododendrons among the towering redwoods.

As I approached the trailhead this time, I saw the fog starting to flow up the gully and crossing the highway. I grabbed my gear and jogged up the trail. Chasing an elusive patch of fog can be frustrating at times. Just when you think you've got a good location, the shape-shifting fog bank reforms itself and drifts just out of reach. About a quarter mile in, I found where the sun's rays had started to penetrate down to the forest floor, making spectacular star-like patterns above and sending welcomed warmth and sunshine to the plants far below the redwood canopies.

While looking for right combination of fog and sun beams, I became acutely aware of my surroundings. I was all alone, deep in the woods, surrounded by mighty redwood trees and an enveloping fog. Redwood trees are the tallest in the world as they can grow to over 350 ft. tall and can live up to 2000 years. While the trees themselves can be quite intimidating, I was captivated and comforted by their towering size, immense strength and how they made the forest dark and quiet. Their sheer enormity created a sense of peace and comfort.

The conditions started to cooperate as I tried to capture as many images as I could, while the sun, fog and I were suddenly all in the same location. I was thinking that I had gotten several good shots before the fog began recede. As I was about to pack up my gear to leave, I turned around to see if maybe I had missed anything. And that is when I captured this photo. While I had been concentrating on everything in front of the lens, this image had silently snuck up behind me, much like how a bear might!

On this wonderfully foggy morning, I achieved a photographic trifecta! I got to spend time alone in the woods, a rarity these days. I got to commune with nature among the giant redwoods. And I captured a shot that will always remind me of this special day.

Photo taken with a Sony a7RIII, with a 24-105 lens @ f/13, ISO 400



Member Profile

Anthea Letsou & Jim Metherrall



Photo Credit: Neil Eschenfelder

We are delighted by the opportunity to introduce ourselves to the WCC. Although we both grew up in New England (Jim in White River Junction, Vermont, and Anthea in Lowell, Massachusetts), we have called Salt Lake City, Utah, home for the past 34 years (more than half our lives!). We met in graduate school at Yale, where we were part of a small cohort of four students pursuing PhDs in Human Genetics. After completing our degrees, we married and headed west for postdoctoral training at UT Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas, Texas. From there, we made our way to Salt Lake City, where we joined the Department of Human Genetics at the University of Utah as Assistant Professors.

Our scientific work followed complementary paths. Jim's lab focused on the molecular genetics of cholesterol metabolism using cell culture models, designing and building robots to pursue his work at scale. Anthea's lab investigated congenital midline closure defects, such as *spina bifida*, using the fruit fly *Drosophila melanogaster* as a model system. Jim is now retired, though his passion for skiing has kept him active as a ski patroller in Park City for several recent winters. Anthea continues as a Professor of Human Genetics at the University of Utah.

Photography has also been an important thread in our story. Anthea's interest began at Phillips Academy in Andover, MA, where the darkroom, one of the few places a boarding school student in the 1970's could be after 8 p.m., offered both refuge and inspiration. There, she developed a foundation in photography as both a technical craft and an expressive medium, learning to see the world through light, framing, and timing.

That exploration continued at Harvard under the instruction of Barbara Norfleet, a documentary photographer whose work examined American culture through social commentary and allegory. Later, as Chair of the Photography Board at *The Harvard Crimson*, the University's daily newspaper, Anthea's work became more immediate and immersive, with assignments that included photographing Presidents Jimmy Carter and Ronald Reagan, as well as the Dalai Lama. *The Harvard Crimson* also led to her first sale (images from the 1980 Harvard controversy over the screening of *Deep Throat*, which sparked arrests and a campus-wide debate on censorship and free speech) to Alan Dershowitz for his book *The Best Defense*, for the grand sum of \$25.

As our lives in Utah filled with the demands of careers and raising a family, photography gradually receded. In recent years, however, with our children grown, we have rediscovered it together, but this time in the digital era. What began as Anthea's early passion has evolved into a shared pursuit. Jim has become an integral partner – equal parts collaborator and, as we like to joke, “sherpa” – helping to carry both gear and vision to places that are often remote and always inspirational.

Together, we seek out landscapes and environments that invite exploration and reflection. Photography has become another way we continue what has long defined our lives: a shared curiosity about the world and a deep, ongoing partnership in how we experience it.



Competition Recap

May Results – Multiple Exposure

Intermediate – First Place



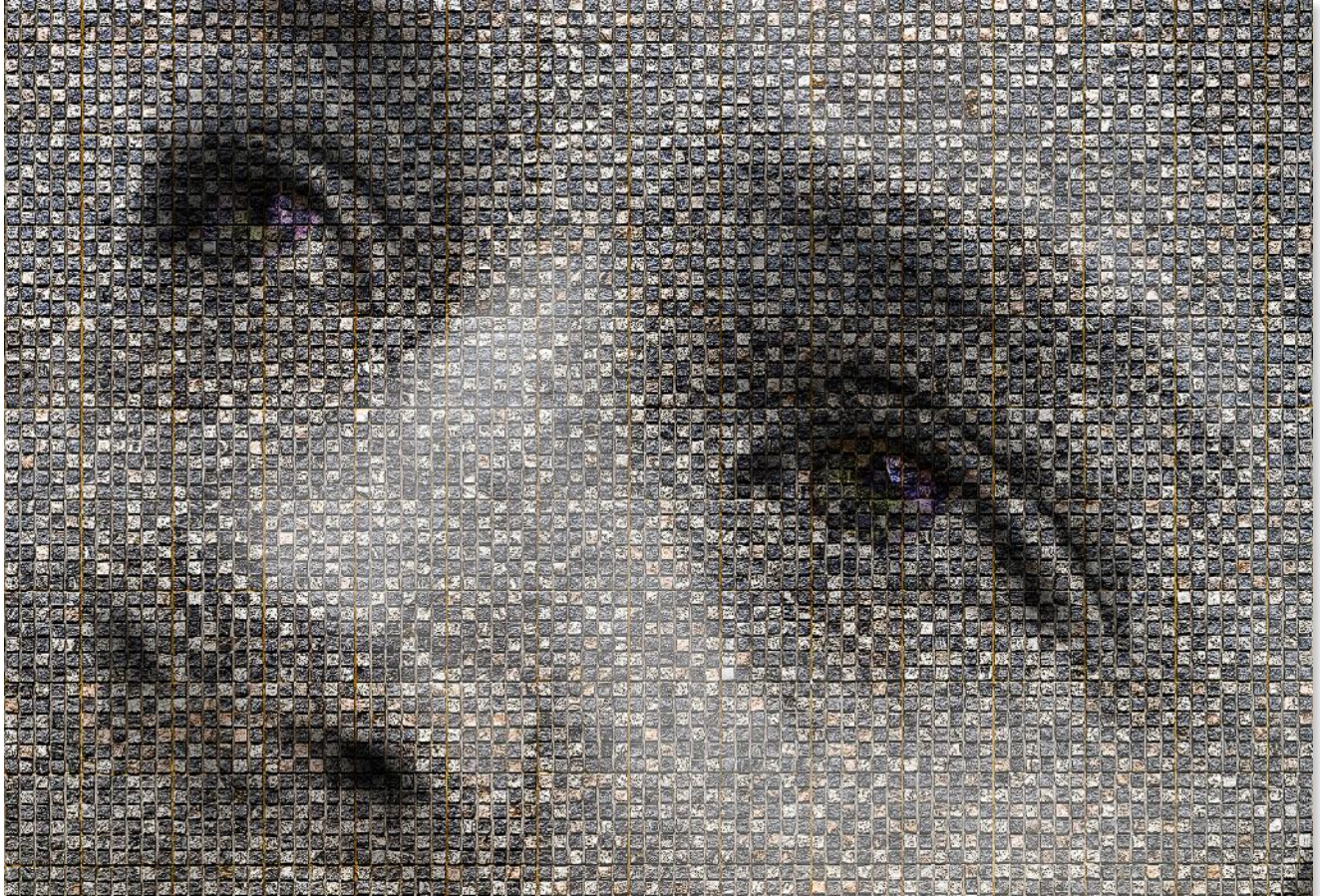
Hippo by Mark Bringhurst

Award	Title	Member
1	Hippo	Mark Bringhurst
2	Confusing Escalator	Hiroshi Kamaya
3	Bison on the Rocks	Mark Bringhurst
HM	58,220	Neil Decker

[CLICK HERE](#) to view all Competition Submissions

May Results – Multiple Exposure (cont.)

Advanced – First Place



Another Brick in the Wall by Tom Moehn

Award	Title	Member
1	Another Brick in the Wall	Tom Moehn
2	Walk Around Moonlight	Tom Moehn
3	Clockwork Orange	Tom Moehn
HM	High School Dreams	Paul Bradley

[CLICK HERE](#) to view all Competition Submissions

May Results – Multiple Exposure (cont.)

Masters – First Place



Lift Off by Brent Ovard

Award	Title	Member
1	Lift Off	Brent Ovard
2	I Too Have a Voice	Linda Dalton Walker
3	Saint Catherine of Siena	Linda Dalton Walker
HM	Almost a Memory	Veloy Cook

[CLICK HERE](#) to view all Competition Submissions

May Results – Open

Intermediate – First Place



Sustaining Life in the Antarctic by Anthea Letsou

Award	Title	Member
1	Sustaining Life in the Antarctic	Anthea Letsou
2	Outer Banks Star Trail	Gary Overdo
3	Snow Algae: Living Color in a Frozen World	Anthea Letsou
HM	The Courage to Walk Alone	Anthea Letsou

[CLICK HERE](#) to view all Competition Submissions

May Results – Open (cont.)

Advanced – First Place



The Library by Paul Bradley

Award	Title	Member
1	The Library	Paul Bradley
2	Dropping In on the Neighbors	Paul Bradley
3	Always Hungry	Elizabeth Roach
HM	Angry Birds	Srinivasan Govindarajan

[CLICK HERE](#) to view all Competition Submissions

May Results – Open (cont.)

Masters – First Place



Look Into the Ashtray by Keith Hill

Award	Title	Member
1	Look Into the Ashtray	Keith Hill
	Buzzed	Anna Day
2*	Lonely Soul	Veloy Cook
	Love, Greater Flamingos	Linda Dalton Walker

* Three-way tie



By Greg Smith, Board Director & PSA Chair

Interclub Competition

The third and final round of the season finished in April. In Nature Division our scores ranged from 17 to 20 points. No awards were won. For PID-Color, scores varied from 15 to 22. **Paul Bradley** and **Jim Roach** earned Honorable Mentions for ["Huffing and Puffin"](#) and ["Goin' to Ground"](#), respectively. An Award of Merit was granted to **Jim Thompson** in PID-Monochrome for his ["Rays of Hope"](#), which scored 23 points (we ranged 17-23 points.) Congratulation to our award winners! (Images on the following page.)

Scores, awards, and club standings are posted on the [PSA Interclub Competition page](#) of the club's website, but to summarize last season's results:

Third/Final Round Results	Nature	PID-Color	PID-Monochrome
# of Images Submitted	54	55	50
Selected for PSA	18	18	18
# Merit Awards	1	0	1
# Honorable Mention	0	5	0
Final Club Standing	10th out of 18 clubs Group C	6th out of 21 clubs Group E	9th out of 16 clubs (Group D)

The End-of-Year competition recently finished. Merit winners from each group competed for Gold, Silver, and Bronze awards, then the Gold Medal winners competed for Best of Show in their division. Neither of our two Merit Award recipients this year, **Greg Smith** (Nature) and **Jim Thompson** (PID-Monochrome), made it to the podium in this elite group of photographers. **Best of Show** went to:

Nature: "Mom to the Rescue," by Phanibhushan Ramasastry, Youth Photographic Society, in India

PID-Color: "Steer Wrestling 1," by Kai-Sun Law, The CCPST (The Chinese Canadian Photographic Society of Toronto), Canada.

PID-Monochrome: "Devil Woman," by Allison Hayes, Maitland Camera Club, in Australia.

You may view the award-winning PSA Interclub or Individual competition images at the [PSA website here](#). It is well worth your time.

PSA News (cont.)

Interclub Competition (cont.)

Final Round of the Season Winners



Rays of Hope by Jim Thompson
PSA Merit Award – PID-Monochrome



Huffing and Puffin by Paul Bradley
PSA Honorable Mention – PID-Color



Goin' to Ground by Jim Roach
PSA Honorable Mention – PID-Color

Continued on next page...

PSA News (cont.)

Interclub Competition (cont.)

In August, competing clubs will be realigned, the top three clubs in each group awarded a certificate and advancing (except those in Group A), and the lowest scorers demoted to keep the total number of clubs in any group from exceeding 25. Our mid-range final standings suggest that we will remain in the same groups next season, Round #1 of which begins in November, 2026.

PSA Journal

Beginning in January, 2027, the monthly publication will go entirely digital. This will allow richer visuals, interactive content, easier access on any device, and a brand-new app experience. This should, hopefully, allow and facilitate wider club member viewing.

PTD Photo Travel Division Newsletter

The Summer issue of the quarterly Photo Travel Division Newsletter "The Photo Traveler" is now on the PSA website. The current issue takes us to Bhutan, Kyrgyzstan, and Antarctica. Some very interesting articles on places to travel to, from your armchair or on your next vacation. Access it [HERE](#).

PSA Photo Festival



Running from September 13 - 19, 2026, in Las Vegas, Nevada, at the Rio Hotel. Check out the [Festival website](#) for schedule, registration, workshops, speaker list, and tours.



Exhibits – Recap

2026 Utah Travels Photo Exhibit / Opening Reception



Photo Credit: Jeff Clay

After months of preparation, the club celebrated the opening of the **2026 Utah Travels exhibit**, co-sponsored by the Utah Cultural Celebration Center, on June 4 – and what an evening it was! This beloved biannual showcase has grown into a true highlight for the club, as well as the UCCC, drawing many visitors with its stunning imagery. The "Travel" theme invites club members to share the places, cultures, celebrations, and people that have moved them – from exotic corners of the globe to hidden gems right in their own backyard.



Photo Credit: Jeff Clay

This year's exhibit features 70 beautiful images, carefully curated from 145 submissions by 44 talented club members, representing many varied places across the globe. Three independent judges had the enjoyable – and no doubt difficult – task of scoring the finalists, ultimately awarding top honors to four photographers, though noting that there were many worthy images that could have been recognized with honors. **First place** went to **Claudia O'Grady** for *Making Incense* (not pictured); **second place** to **Russell Palmer** for *Lofoten*; and **third place** to **Liz Roach** for *Tenacious*. **Greg Smith's** *A Beacon for the Absent* earned a well-deserved honorable mention. And this year's **Staff Choice Award** goes to **Dawn Barton** with *Not My First Rodeo*.

(Winning images are on the [next page](#).)

Continued on next page...

2026 Utah Travels Photo Exhibit (cont.)



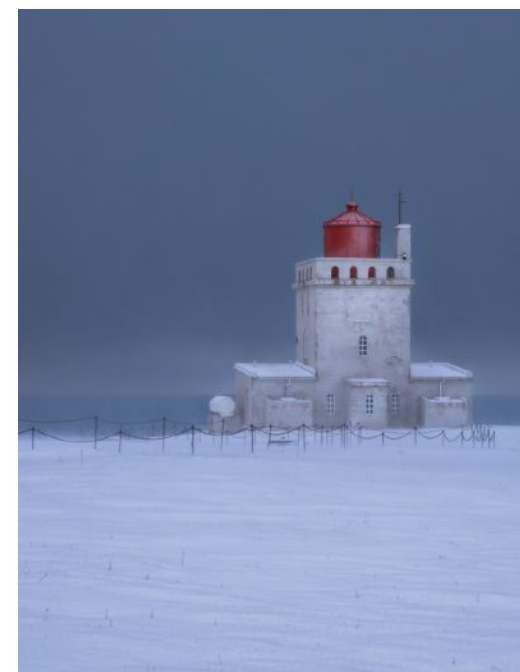
Making Incense by Claudia O'Grady
First Place



Lofoten by Russell Palmer
Second Place



Tenacious by Liz Roach
Third Place



A Beacon for the Absent by Greg Smith
Honorable Mention

Not my First Rodeo by Dawn Barton
Staff Choice Award

Continued on next page...

2026 Utah Travels Photo Exhibit (cont.)

Russell Palmer, who took second place with a stunning image from Norway, had this to say:

"Although it took me 3 or 4 years to decide on joining WCC, I finally did so just barely a couple months ago. Ultimately, I figured the club would help keep me engaged with photography more consistently throughout the year, but I also joined simply to push myself a bit beyond my comfort zone which is something I think is very important to advancing one's creative endeavors.

Going to Lofoten, Norway was certainly a bucket list adventure. One of the little red fishing cabins seen in the photograph is one we booked and stayed in for a week or so allowing me a decent window of time to become familiar with the surrounding areas along the archipelago. I feel very fortunate as this was not only the first exhibit that I've entered with WCC, but this was entirely my first time submitting any of my photography to anything, ever."



Photo Credit: Jeff Clay



Photo Credit: Jeff Clay

At the artists' reception, Michael Christensen, Visual and Performing Arts Manager with the UCCC, greeted the friends, family, and supporters of the arts who filled the room. According to Michael, "The Utah Travels exhibition is one of our staff favorites! I always have co-workers telling me how much they love this particular exhibition. For me, it's an example of how we work best when designing public programs – by partnering with community organizations with like-minded goals, helping each other for mutual benefit and maximum outcome." The evening buzzed with energy and kudos for the remarkable vision and artistry on display throughout the show.

The show will continue to hang at the UCCC through July 8.

[CLICK HERE](#) to view exhibited images.



Creative Corner

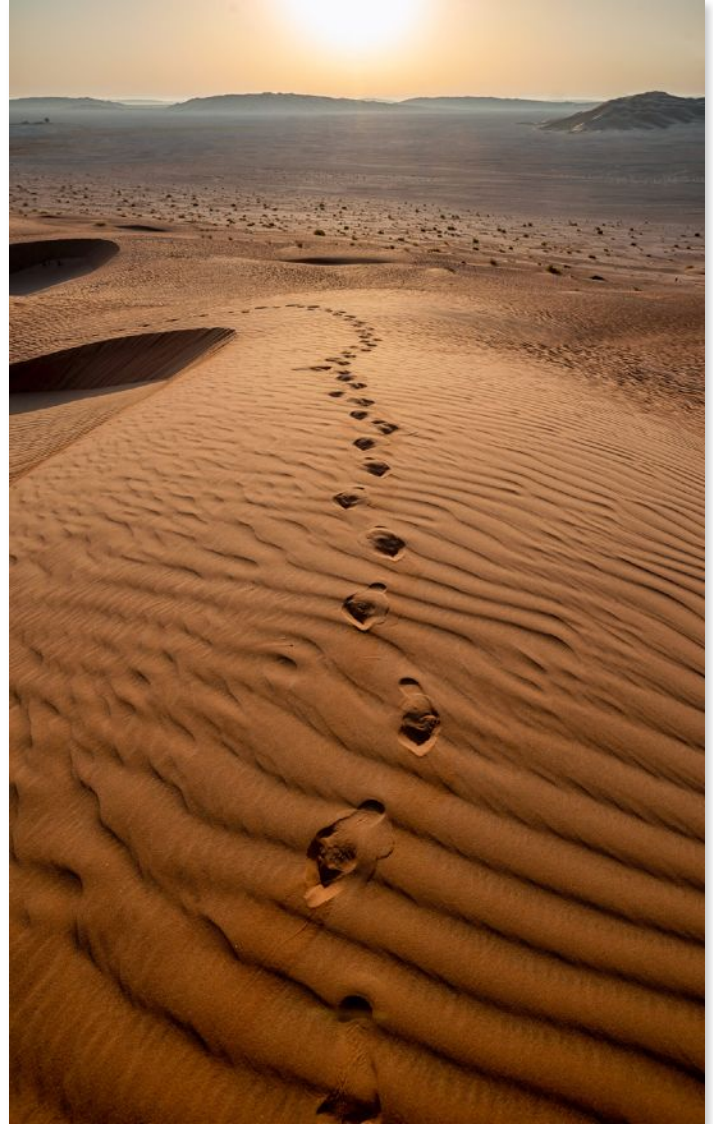
One Picture Story

[CLICK HERE](#) for more One Picture Story submissions.

Words and Image by Jeff Clay

Journeys

*Fifteen thousand steps
A long way – though journeys are
More than measured feet*



About One Picture Story

Combine short text with a single image that, together, convey a story greater than the sum of its parts. The text should not be about the image (as it is for In Focus articles), nor should the image directly illustrate the text. Instead, the image should amplify the thought or feeling the text describes. [CLICK HERE](#) to submit a JPEG image and text. Please use our standard image file naming format (lastname_firstname_image-title.jpg.)

Creative Corner (cont.)

In Focus

[CLICK HERE](#) for more In Focus submissions.

Mating Hoatzins – Words and Image by Greg Smith



Last year I had the pleasure of exploring the flooded rainforest of the upper Amazon Basin in northern Peru. Among the dozens of remarkable animals and beautiful bird species we encountered, perhaps the strangest was the Hoatzin (pronounced “watsin”), *Opisthocomus hoazin*. We saw several of these pheasant-sized, punk-rock chickens, usually perched alone or in small groups in branches overhanging the water, and were fortunate to witness a mating pair.

In a series of images, the female can be seen fluttering her wings in an

effort to attract the attention of the seemingly clueless male above her. Only when she positions herself directly in front of him does he appear to get the message. Copulation lasted less than ten seconds, leisurely by most bird standards, and ended with both birds fluttering their feathers at each other in what looked remarkably like a male bow and female curtsy (image on the right.) Our guide described the characteristics of this bird, which I found so bizarre that I simply have to share them.

The above image won an **Award of Merit** in the PSA Interclub Competition last year, largely for the strength of its nature story through the depiction of animal behavior. It was photographed at a focal length of 400mm and overexposed by $1\frac{2}{3}$ stops to compensate for the brilliant hazy sunlight behind the birds. To the naked eye they appeared almost as silhouettes. The final image was cropped by approximately 50 percent.



Continued on next page...

In Focus (cont.)

With their spiky crests, bright red eyes, and blue facial skin, Hoatzins are instantly recognizable. What makes them truly remarkable, however, is their digestive system. Unlike almost every other bird, they feed primarily on leaves. To digest this tough food, they use a large crop and esophagus filled with microbes that ferment plant material before it reaches the stomach – much like the rumen of a cow. In fact, the Hoatzin is the only known bird that relies extensively on foregut fermentation. This process produces gases and odors (think compost pile gone bad), earning the bird its colorful nickname: the “stinkbird.”

The Hoatzin's unusual digestion is both a blessing and a curse. Its enlarged digestive tract occupies space that other birds devote to powerful flight muscles, making it a clumsy and reluctant flyer. On the other hand, its foul odor makes it less appealing to human hunters, sparing it the fate of several species threatened by bushmeat hunting. Today, habitat loss poses its greatest danger.

Perhaps the most famous feature of the Hoatzin is found in its chicks. Young Hoatzins hatch with two functional claws on each wing. When predators threaten the nest, the chicks can leap into the water below, swim to safety, and then use their wing claws to climb back up to the nest. As they mature, the claws disappear. Although often compared to the clawed wings of prehistoric birds such as *Archaeopteryx*, scientists view these claws as a specialized adaptation rather than evidence of a living fossil. Other birds, including chickens and ducks, also possess wing claws, but theirs are far more rudimentary.



Hoatzin Chick

Genetic research suggests that the Hoatzin is the last surviving member of a bird lineage that branched off on its own evolutionary path roughly 64 million years ago, shortly after the extinction event that wiped out the non-avian dinosaurs. It was a privilege to witness and photograph this evolutionary outlier in its natural habitat.

About In Focus

Members can share one image and tell a bit about it. Perhaps you want to share technical details or perhaps you want to share why you took the image? Maybe you want to express what the photograph means to you. Maybe you want to write about the location or perhaps the people in the image. It is up to you! To submit an image send it to info@wasatchcameraclub.com and don't forget to also include your text bit about it.



Presentations & Workshops – Recaps

April 14 – *The Importance of Photography* with Mark Thompson

Mark Thompson delivered a thoughtful and eye-opening presentation on the deeper purpose of photography and the intentional decisions behind every image we create. He encouraged everyone to think beyond the moment of pressing the shutter and to consider the long-term life of their work. Where will your images go from here? What will they mean years from now? And what happens to your photographic legacy after you're gone?

Mark pushed the group to reflect on intentionality – not just *taking* photos, but understanding *why* you're taking them. He also opened up an important conversation about AI and how it intersects with creativity, authorship, and the future of visual storytelling.

These questions sparked meaningful discussion and left everyone thinking more deeply about their craft, their purpose, and the impact their images will carry forward.

May 14 – *The Art of Aviation Photography* with Brent Ovard



Photo Credit: Greg Smith

Brent Ovard demonstrates the proper way to hold your camera and twist at the waist to obtain sharp panning shots of fast moving aircraft.

About 20 club members gathered at the Millcreek Community Center to listen to long-time club member Brent Ovard discuss the ins and outs (or should it be the ups and downs?) of photographing aircraft. Based on his extensive experience, Brent went over the basics of site positioning for best angle and illumination, camera equipment and settings for prop versus jet planes, in the air, static on the ground, and even night shots. He covered the differences between civil and military airshows, and told us about some of the big ones and his favorites. It was an engaging evening, with several questions. A big thank you to Brent for sharing with us his expertise on this challenging subject matter.

[CLICK HERE](#) to view all upcoming Presentations

[CLICK HERE](#) to view all upcoming Workshops

Presentations & Workshops – Recaps (cont.)

June 11 – Making the Image – A Presentation by Colleen Miniuk

The club hosted an online presentation by renowned outdoor photographer, author, speaker, and instructor, [Colleen Miniuk](#). Colleen is as entertaining as she is knowledgeable. The Zoom event was held June 11, 2026, and had excellent attendance. One participant remarked, “This was one of the best presentations we’ve had!”

Colleen’s presentation featured her most meaningful images from 2025. Not only did she talk about the technical aspects of each image – composition, lighting challenges, and editing – she also discussed the backstory leading up to the creation of each image. We heard tales of adventure from the Colorado River, Acadia National Park, and Hawaii.



We learned about important concepts such as visual weight, forced perspective, making the best of available light, and adding your own magic to a scene. Using her own editing workflow for instruction, she walked through her processing of each image, using just Adobe Camera Raw and Photoshop.

She builds her photographic practice around living life in the moment, embracing a Japanese concept called Yutori, which is the active decision to slow down. She also invokes Mushin, the Japanese concept of a mental state free of hesitant thoughts. Repeatedly, she encouraged viewers to “search for invisible gorillas” (a reference to an experiment called [The Monkey Business Illusion](#)). Pushing vision, creativity, and spontaneity throughout the presentation, each image became a lesson more about the “why” of the image rather than the “how”.

The recorded presentation is available to members by visiting the [Resources page](#) on the club website.

– Claudia O’Grady, Secretary & Exhibits Chair

Do you have a photographic interest to share with the Club? Is there something you are passionate about or can teach? Our members will enjoy seeing photography techniques, portfolios and travelogues. Contact Lisa, Workshop Coordinator at workshops@wasatchcameraclub.com.

[CLICK HERE](#) to view all upcoming Presentations

[CLICK HERE](#) to view all upcoming Workshops



Presentations & Workshops – Upcoming

July 15 / 6:30pm - 8:30pm (Zoom)

A Very Short Course in Still Life Photography

Mark Battista, Nationally Recognized Fine Art Photographer & Painter



Photo Credit: Mark Battista

Mark Battista, a nationally recognized Fine Art Photographer and Painter, will discuss the “Art of Still Life Photography” and share his approach for creating images that tell a story, communicate an idea, and express a mood.

Through this workshop you will be inspired to create impactful still life imagery through the use of simple tools such as natural light, single light flashes and constant light.

Emphasis will be placed on how to modify light and use directional light to create drama.

[CLICK HERE](#) to register for this event.

Mark's Bio:

Mark Battista is a painter and fine art photographer specializing in portrait and still life photography. He graduated from Paier College of Art with a B.F.A. and an M.S. in art education from Southern Connecticut State University. He recently retired from teaching art after 35 years.

Mark's work has been internationally recognized and he has won awards from organizations such as the Salmagundi Art Club in NYC, the New York Center For Photographic Arts, the American Artists Professional League, and the CT Watercolor Society. He recently won the Grand Prize and Second Place in an international exhibit through New York Center for Photographic Art.

Mark , a nationally sought after speaker, recently published two eBooks titled “ The Art of Still Life Photography” and “Composition: Shooting With Intent” that are available through his website. (Interested club members can realize a 20% discount by contacting Mark directly.) As well, he just published another ebook directly available from Amazon: Finding Inspiration: Helping Photographers Get out of a Creative Rut.

[CLICK HERE](#) to view all upcoming Presentations

[CLICK HERE](#) to view all upcoming Workshops



Field Trips – Recaps

April 11 – The Color Capture Challenge at Trolley Square



Our Color Challenge at Trolley Square was a huge success! Each of the eight photographers drew a color from a box filled with different color assignments. Armed with their chosen color, everyone set off to photograph people, places, and objects that showcased their assigned hue. It was a fun, creative exercise that encouraged us to see our surroundings in a new way. The challenge inspired everyone to look more intentionally, and the variety of images made for a wonderful and colorful collection of perspectives.

[CLICK HERE](#) to view more images from this field trip.



Photo Credit: Dawn Griffith



Photo Credit: Andrea Dahl

– Dawn Griffith, Board Director & Field Trips Chair

[CLICK HERE](#) to view all upcoming and past Field Trips

Questions: fieldtrips@wasatchcameraclub.com

Field Trips – Recaps (cont.)

June 13 – Ben Behunin Pottery & Art Photography



Photo Credit: Claudia O'Grady

A small but curious group of photographers met up with Ben Behunin at his pottery studio for an opportunity to shoot him in action at his wheel, plus many interesting and colorful details! On the morning of June 13, Ben graciously invited us into his studio to explore and shoot. Ben goes by [PotterBoy](#), and his studio is filled with bespoke pie plates, bowls, tea cups, magnets, and home and garden decorations. Ben sat at his wheel for the group for about an hour, making small Japanese tea cups while being photographed by club members. The quirky characters adorning his studio made for fun subjects, while the art supplies and materials also proved to be quite photogenic. The studio is open six days a week and all are welcome to stop by and browse!

[CLICK HERE](#) to view more images from this field trip.



Photo Credit: Andrea Dahl

– Claudia O'Grady, Secretary & Exhibits Chair

[CLICK HERE](#) to view all upcoming Presentations

[CLICK HERE](#) to view all upcoming Workshops

Field Trips – Recaps (cont.)

June 25 – Astrophotography Workshop – Part 2



The astrophotography workshop presentation with Ryan Andreasen was a stellar success, drawing a fantastic turnout of 16 passionate club members eager to master the night sky. The indoor session focused on the essential techniques required to capture stunning night landscapes and the Milky Way. Attendees learned how to tackle the unique challenge of focusing in absolute darkness using live view on bright stars. The presentation also demystified the "500 Rule" for calculating precise shutter speeds to prevent star trailing, alongside balancing high ISOs with wide-open apertures.

The event marked a major milestone for the club, as several members learned the exact steps needed to capture the Milky Way for the very first time. Beyond the technical slides, the presentation fostered great community spirit as members compared gear notes and discussed heavy-duty tripods and wide-angle lenses. Looking ahead, members are encouraged to practice these new skills, apply noise reduction in post-processing, and upload their best practice shots to the club's shared drive after we attend the [hands-on field trip scheduled for July 11](#).

– Dawn Griffith, Board Director & Field Trips Chair

[CLICK HERE](#) to view all upcoming Presentations

[CLICK HERE](#) to view all upcoming Workshops



Field Trips – Upcoming

July 11 / 7:00pm - 1:00am (next day)

Annual Astrophotography to Lone Rock (Registration Required)



We will be hosting this year's astro field trip at Lone Rock. Please note it is not the Lone Rock on the Great Salt Lake. See info below on how to get there. You have the option to primitive camp if you so choose or head home in the late night or early morning hours. Totally up to you. We will meet at the turn off from Skull Valley Road (hwy 196) and head to the rock together to find the best location for our group. Please wear **sturdy closed toe shoes** and bring the following:

- > Chair
- > Bug Spray
- > Long Sleeve Pants and Shirts
- > Coat
- > Water
- > Night Head Lamp (Red Light)
- > Food or Eat Prior to Event
- > Tracker (If You Own One)

Directions

Head west of SLC on Interstate 80 to the Rowley/Dugway exit #77. Head south on Skull Valley Road (hwy 196) for approximately 3 miles until you see a small sign - "Lone Rock" - and a big rock on the right side of the road.

Key astro details for July 11

- **Rise after astronomical twilight:** ~ 9:00pm (core above horizon after sunset)
- **Peak altitude:** Around 2:00am, when the core is highest in the southern sky
- **Set:** ~1:00am (core drops below horizon)
- **Best shooting window:** ~9:00pm – 1:00am

[CLICK HERE](#) to register for this field trip.

– Dawn Griffith, Board Director & Field Trips Chair

[CLICK HERE](#) to view all upcoming and past Field Trips

Questions: fieldtrips@wasatchcameraclub.com



Shutter Up Socials – Upcoming

Shutter Up Socials are held as Zoom meetings and have provided an opportunity for Wasatch Camera Club members to share up to 6 photos with other members without leaving their homes. Each Social has an assigned theme and each participant shares how and why they took the photo. [CLICK HERE](#) for more information on upcoming Socials.

April 16 / 6:30pm - 8:30pm – The Mythic West



We will be celebrating the old west for the month of July sharing photos of old barns, horses and corals, historic buildings and small towns filled with stories of the old west. July is the perfect month to remember our legendary American West: The 4th of July and the celebrations on July 24th. Please join us and share the historic photos you have taken that represent our Mythic Past. Look forward to a fun filled evening with stories to tell.

[CLICK HERE](#) to register for this event.

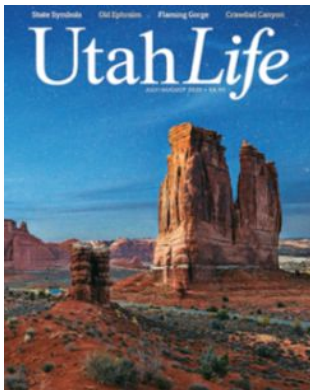
[CLICK HERE](#) for tips on using Zoom to share your images during Shutter Up Socials.

– Mary Whitesides, Board Director & Social Events Chair



News You Can Use

Utah Life Magazine – Call For Photos Deadline – July 8



This is Erik Makic, photo coordinator at *Utah Life* magazine. From time to time, we send contributors a list of upcoming photo needs for future issues. If you already have images that fit these themes – or would like to photograph something specifically for consideration – we'd love to see your work.

Current Photo Requests

American Flag Across Utah

We are looking for images of the American flag as it appears naturally across Utah – in small towns, rodeos, farms, schools, main streets, open landscapes and everyday community life. We are especially interested in authentic, place-specific moments rooted in Utah's character and geography.

Herping in Utah

We are looking for images connected to herping across Utah, including reptiles and amphibians in the field as well as the activity of finding them. Images may show snakes, lizards, frogs, toads, salamanders, tracks, sheds and other signs of wildlife, along with people searching, conducting fieldwork, documenting habitat, checking rocky terrain and walking desert washes. We'd like the images to tell the full story of herping – the species, landscapes, methods and careful observation involved.

Hummingbirds

We are looking for images of all hummingbird species across Utah, including close portraits, flight, feeding behavior and nesting habitat. Images may also show hummingbirds among native flowers, desert blooms, mountain meadows, backyard gardens or planted landscapes, as long as those settings clearly support the bird's habitat or feeding behavior. We are especially interested in images that capture movement, color and the relationship between hummingbirds and Utah's seasonal landscapes.

Submission Instructions

Please send low-resolution preview images by **Wednesday, July 8** via email (below) using a file-sharing service such as Dropbox, WeTransfer or Google Drive. Online galleries are also welcome, though downloadable galleries or zip files are preferred when available.

Email address: photos@flagshipublishing.com

If possible, please include captions, location information and photo credits with your submission. If selected, images may be considered for print and/or digital publication with credit. We'll follow up directly regarding high-resolution files, placement and compensation.

As always, if you have ideas for stories, locations or photo projects that *Utah Life* should consider, we'd love to hear your pitches and story queries as well.



Resources



Board Blogs

Green Rocks at Blue Stone Beach by Jeff Clay



Photo Credit: Jeff Clay

Board Chairperson Jeff Clay shares his experience at Pantai Batu Biru (Blue Stone Beach) on the south-central coast of the Indonesian island of **Flores**. The volcanic black sand beach is known for the vivid blue-green stones scattered throughout its length.

In [Jeff's blog post](#) he describes how he captured a sequence of images of the glistening stones wreathed in the dynamic motion of flowing surf.



Education

There are numerous archived resources and presentations available to view on the WCC website. [CLICK HERE for resources](#), [HERE](#) for presentations and [HERE](#) for workshops.



Mentoring

Under Director John Ballard, the Mentoring Program continues to offer aid and instruction for new and intermediate photographers, provided by club member volunteers. If you are interested in finding a mentor, or want to volunteer your time helping someone improve their image-making and photo-editing skills, send your name and questions to [John](#).



About WCC

Club Information

The Wasatch Camera Club is an all-volunteer organization, governed and run by a Board of Directors. Founded in 1994, the Club operates today as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. The Club provides a rich and enjoyable environment in which to improve your photography skills with activities that support our educational goal. These include workshops, field trips, lectures, exhibits, competitions and one-on-one mentoring. Annual membership fee is \$50. For additional information, go to the [Wasatch Camera Club](https://www.wasatchcameraclub.com) website or email info@wasatchcameraclub.com.

Executive Committee

Jeff Clay	Board Chair	boardchair@wasatchcameraclub.com
John Nellist	Treasurer	treasurer@wasatchcameraclub.com
Claudia O'Grady	Secretary & Exhibits Chair	exhibits@wasatchcameraclub.com

Directors & Committee Members

Jason Cameron	Board Director, Competitions Chair & Galleries Manager	competitions@wasatchcameraclub.com
Dawn Griffith	Board Director & Field Trips Chair	fieldtrips@wasatchcameraclub.com
Lisa Thompson	Board Director & Workshops/ Presentation Chair	workshops@wasatchcameraclub.com
Mary Whitesides	Board Director & Social Events Chair	socialevents@wasatchcameraclub.com
John Ballard	Board Director & Membership/ Mentoring Chair	mentoring@wasatchcameraclub.com
Greg Smith	Board Director & PSA Chair	psa@wasatchcameraclub.com
Cindy Costa	Board Director & Newsletter Editor	newsletters@wasatchcameraclub.com



Newsletter Division



Newsletter Division



Magazine Division

Wasatch Camera Club is a proud member of the Photographic Society of America. For more information on individual memberships to PSA, visit their website at <https://psaphotoworldwide.org/>.

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