

# Cobb Photographic Society



November 2023



October's Monthly Competition Theme: *Shapes*

(Cover) Winner- Monochrome  
*Counting Stars*  
Melissa Moody

(Above) Winner- Color  
*Balloons*  
Melissa Moody



Winner- Novice  
*Marina Tower*  
Anand Saokar

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# Upcoming Activities and Events

November 2023



**Wed, 1 Nov, 7 PM.** **Zoom: Learning Workshop: *Compositing for a Magazine Cover or Digital/Printed Cards.*** Join **Ümit Yüksel** as he takes us through how to take two or more images and create a composite. A perfect time of year to build your holiday card for printing or emailing your friends and family. The class Zoom URL will be emailed in advance to all registered members. Photos by Pat. Sign up/RSVP [here](#). **Club members only.**



**Fri, 3 Nov, 2:30 PM.** **Member Invitation: “Kicking Back Against Parkinson’s”.** **Marge Kinder**, a club member, invites all to come out to the Rome Braves Stadium to enjoy the afternoon with local Parkinson’s patients. The opportunity to photograph during a leisurely played kickball game and share your photos with the patients is soul-satisfying. Hot dogs and drinks will be served. The Rome Braves Stadium- Miracle Field address is 755 Braves Blvd NE, Rome, GA 30161. For more info, contact Marge at 602.882.2888. Photos by **Rob Herman** and Pat. **All are welcome.**

**FYI: Sun, 5 Nov.** Daylight Savings Time “falls back”. Enjoy the extra hour.

**Mon, 6 Nov, 7 PM.** **Competition: Monthly Competition Evening, Theme: *Windows.*** Join us in-person at [Sewell Mill Library/Cultural Center](#) or via Zoom [here](#). After the meeting, we’ll head out for social time and food at a nearby establishment. **All are welcome.**

**Mon, 6 Nov. Social Media: Monthly Photo Challenge.** All club members will receive an email detailing the challenge topic and the hyperlink to upload their photos to our club's Facebook page album. The *Photo Challenge* is **not** competitive but gives members and visitors an opportunity to challenge themselves with a specific theme and receive helpful, constructive feedback from fellow club members. **All are welcome.**



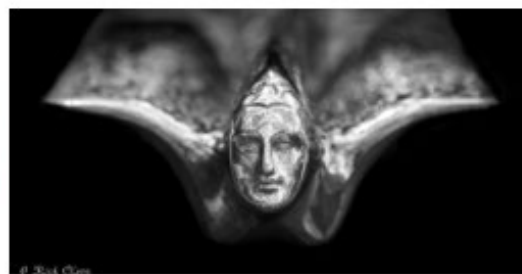
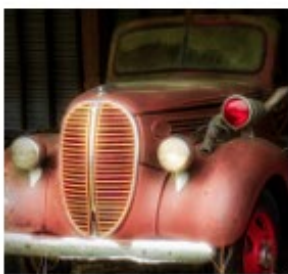
**Fri, 10 Nov, 8 PM. Learning Workshop/Field Trip: *Star Light, Star Bright: Nebula Photography.*** Ümit Yüksel closes his five-month course on astrophotography (Star Trails, Milky Way, and the Nebula) with this final Learning Workshop- Nebula. FYI, we will meet at the far side of the Brasstown Bald parking lot. Workshop registration is closed. Photos by Umit. **Course-registered club members only.**



**Thu, 16 Nov, 3 PM. Second Chance Competition Submission.** Do you have a 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, or Honorable mention winning 2023 photograph that you would like to submit (up to three photographs per division- Novice, Color, Monochrome) for a wild card first place? One wild card winner from each division will compete with the other monthly first place 2023 division winners for **Best of the Year** (Novice, Color, and Monochrome). Because **Laura Prescott** has digital copies of all our 2023 winning photographs, just submit an entry form for each division with the photograph titles (up to three winning photos for each division). Winners will be recognized at our December Awards/Dinner. Photos above are our *2022 Second Chance* winners.



**\*Pending date confirmation\* Fri 17 Nov, 8 PM. Learning Workshop - #2 of 3: Light Painting Basics: Practice Session: Adding Ambient Light Backgrounds.** With newly purchased light tools, we'll practice in the Marietta area. Our final Learning Workshop/final field trip will be to a downtown Atlanta location/nearby city or a nature setting, with a model, that brings our new skills together. Sign up/RSVP [here](#). Photos by unknown web photographers. **Club members only.**



**Sat, 18 Nov, 9 AM. Field Trip: Old Car City.** Old Car City is a photographer's icon in Georgia, going back decades! With 34 acres of easy trails through rusting cars and trucks, where those from the '70s are the youngest, you'll find endless opportunities for interesting compositions. Textures, rust, decay, vehicles overgrown with trees and vines, what's not to like? Entrance is \$30 for photographers and cash only. Located at 3098 US-411E, White GA, 30184, GPS: 34.26982, -84.75201. Carpool options from Sewell Mill Library are detailed in the Sign-up/RSVP [here](#). Photos by **Rick Olson. All are welcome.**

**Mon, 20 Nov, 7 PM. Continuing Education: Presentation Evening.** Join our evening's Zoom-only educational presentation [here](#). **All are welcome.**

**Tue, 21 Nov, 7 PM. New Members: CPS Welcome/New Member Zoom Orientation.** **Dee Dee Bonesteel**, our club's Secretary and Welcome Chair, welcomes our newest members to learn about our club resources and review the process of competing in our club's competition. Q&A time is included. The Zoom meeting URL will be emailed to new members a couple of days before the Zoom session. **New members only.**

# Future Activities and Events

**FYI:** No December Theme Competition.



**Sat, 9 Dec, 6:30 PM.** **Social: Annual Dinner/Social and Awards Ceremony** at Marietta Fish House, 3185 Canton Road, Marietta, GA 30066 . Social starts at 6:30 PM, dinner at 7 PM with a guest speaker and award presentations to follow. RSVP/Sign up [here](#).

**2024. Learning Workshop/Field Trip- #3 of 3: Capstone: Light Painting Basics: Adding Ambient Backgrounds to Light Painting.** Blue Hour/cityscape photography at an Atlanta location/nearby city or in a nature setting. RSVP/Sign up [here](#). **Club members only.**

**Mon, 1 Jan, 3 PM.** **Competition: Deadline for Digital Images, Theme: General: Vintage.** For January's competition only, submit ANY photo, regardless of the theme or date of the photograph; it's a wide open, fun competition! Using the new CPS entry form, email the form and photos to [cpsdigital2023@gmail.com](mailto:cpsdigital2023@gmail.com). **All are welcome.**

**Mon, 8 Jan, 7 PM.** **Competition: Monthly Competition Evening, Theme: General: Vintage.** For January's competition only, submit ANY photo, regardless of the theme or date of the photograph; it's a wide open, fun competition! Join us in-person at [Sewell Mill Library/Cultural Center](#) or via Zoom [here](#). After the meeting, we'll head out for social time and food at a nearby establishment. **All are welcome.**

# Notes From Around Our Club

## Competition Evening- *Shapes*.



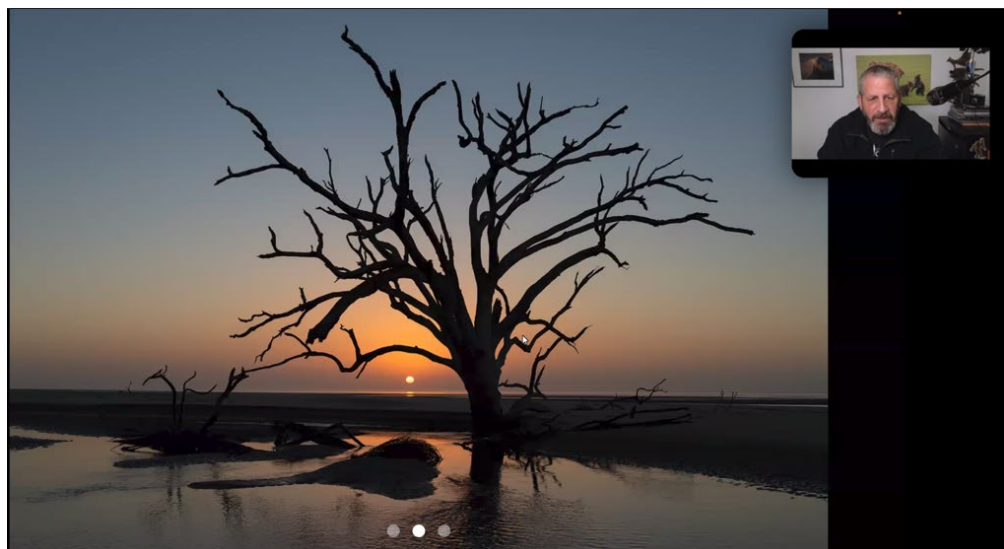
**Mike Moreland**, a friend of the club over the years and a professional photographer who also conducts local workshops, judged our month's digital competition, *Shapes*.



## Presentation Evening- Landscape Composition.



**David Akoubian**, an experienced local and nationally-recognized professional photographer and workshop instructor, presented top-notch examples of landscape photos and tips that will serve us well in the field. You can view David's video presentation [here](#).

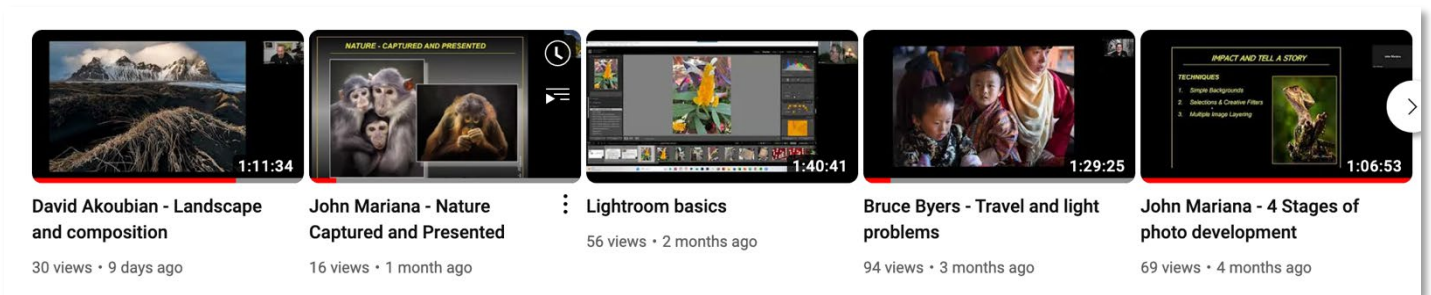


## They Say It's Your

# Birthday!

- **Phyllis Westland**, 18 November
- **Jef Scurry**, 21 November
- **Mike Ramy**, 27 November
- **Judy Ghormley**, 28 November
- **Don Grider**, 30 November

## Monthly CPS YouTube Presentations.



You can review our club's presentation videos from the last 2+ years [here](#).

## 2023 Year to Date Competition Standings- Overall and Division.

Overall: **Jeff Westland**  
Novice Division: **Joy Rogers**  
Monochrome Division: **Jeff Westland**  
Color Division: **Jeff Westland**

## People's Choice Award for Fall 2023.

One of the tasks of the Exhibit Chair, **Mark Chandler**, is to coordinate voting while our photos are on display.

On opening night, during our reception, Mark opens the box for club member voting and then, under the staff's continued supervision, allows passers-by to vote for their favorite photograph over the next couple of weeks.

With the voting window closed Mark tallied the votes and announced **Lori Mitchum's *Summer Morning*** as the People's Choice recipient!

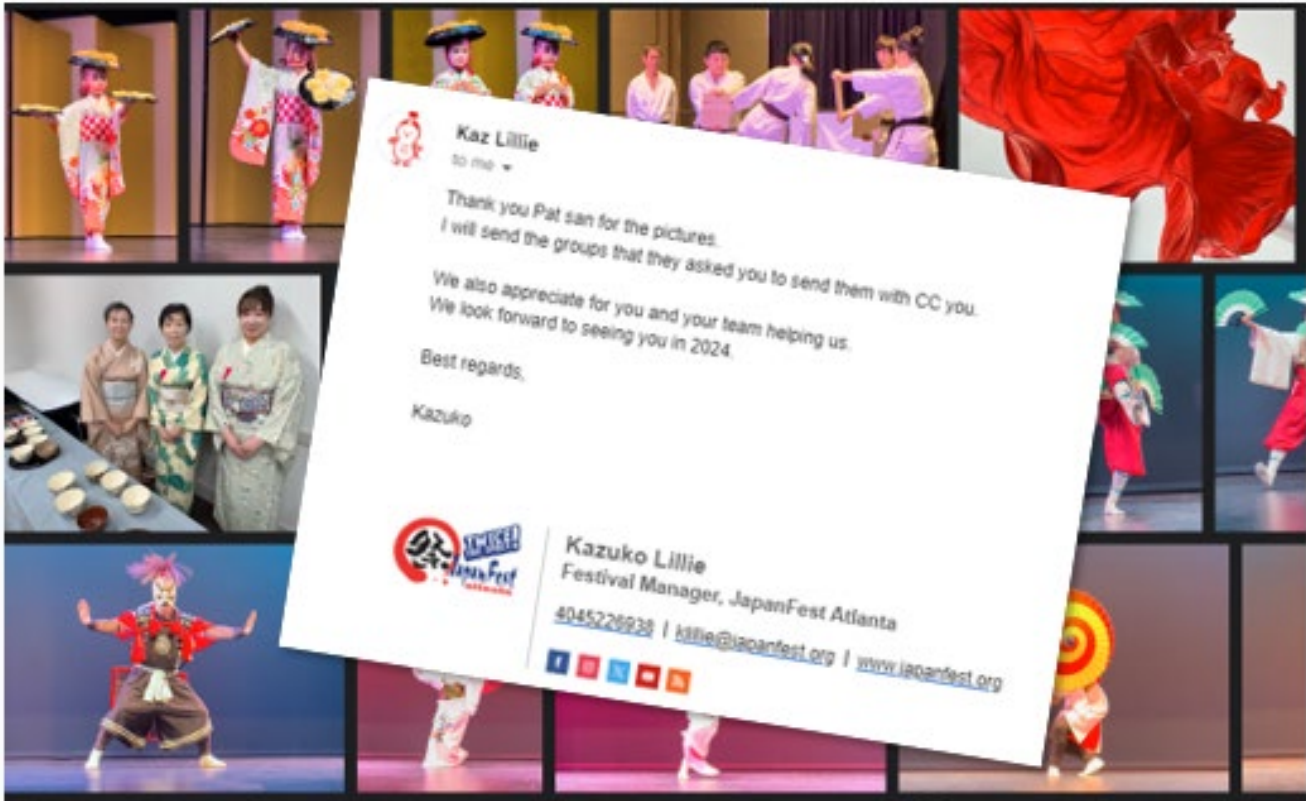


## JapanFest Thank you.

Thanking the club is **Kaz Lillie**, the JapanFest Festival manager and the point of contact who approved our participations in JapanFest over the last two years.

You can view the photos that all our photographers uploaded at our SmugMug webpage [here](#).

This Kaz's thank you note to our club:



## CPS 2023-2024 Monthly Competition Schedule.

Monday Deadline for Digital Submission	Monday Competition Evening	Competition Theme
<b>2023</b>		
July 3	July 10 *	Macro/Close-Up
July 31	August 7	Portrait
September 4	September 11 *	Toys <span style="float: right; background-color: red; color: white; padding: 2px;">Prints-only</span>
September 25	October 2	Shapes
October 30	November 6	Windows
November 27	Xmas Party ***	Winning 2023 photos compete for a 1 <sup>st</sup> place
<b>2024</b>		
January 1	January 8 **	General – Vintage (no theme or 2-year limit)
January 29	February 5	People
February 26	March 4	Negative Space <span style="float: right; background-color: red; color: white; padding: 2px;">Prints-only</span>
March 25	April 1	Symmetry
April 29	May 6	Nature
May 27	June 3	Smoke / Fog / Mist <span style="float: right; background-color: red; color: white; padding: 2px;">Prints-only</span>
July 1	July 8 *	Roadways / Paths
July 29	August 5	Frame within a Frame
September 2	September 9 *	Backlight <span style="float: right; background-color: red; color: white; padding: 2px;">Prints-only</span>
September 30	October 7	Solitude
October 28	November 4	High Speed
November 25	Xmas Party ***	Winning 2024 photos compete for a 1 <sup>st</sup> place

Our Competition Chair, **Laura Prescott**, developed a document with definitions and example pictures to help you get going. View the document [here](#).

\* July and September Competition evenings and image submission dates are always pushed back a week due to the 4<sup>th</sup> of July and Labor Day holidays. The presentation evening is still on the third Monday every month of the year.

**Prints-only** competition evenings are in-person only; no simultaneous Zoom session.

## High Museum Photo Exhibit.



*A Long Arc: Photography and the American South Since 1845* will be on exhibit at the High Museum until 14 Jan 2024.

This exhibition examines that complicated history and reveals the South's critical impact on the evolution of the medium, posing timely questions about American culture and character.

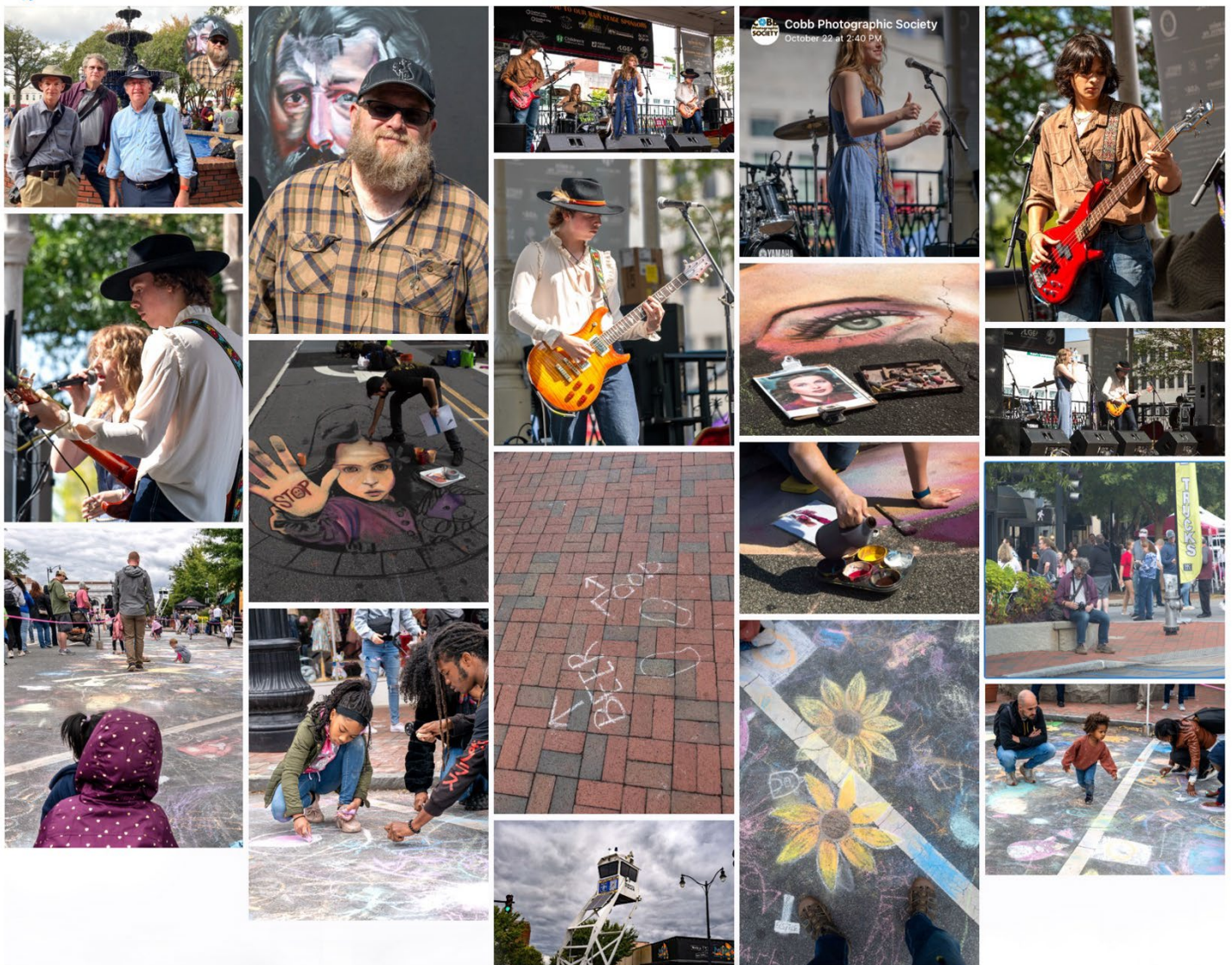
Contact 404.733.4400 or [high.org](http://high.org) for more details.

## Field Trip: North GA Waterfalls.

Photos next month due to field trip at the end of October.

## Field Trip: *Chalktoberfest*.

A two-day venue at Marietta Square, the club met on the first day while several members attended the second day. Enjoy the photos [here](#).



## CPS Fall Exhibit: Flora and Fauna.

We enjoyed the largest ever display of photographs ever at a club exhibition, according to our Exhibit Chair, **Mark Chandler**. I'm always taken by the breadth of our club's photographic abilities. View the photos [here](#).





## Club Photos in the *Around Kennesaw* & *Around Acworth* Magazines

### Cobb Photographic Society

Monochrome



Andreas Wierschen - First Place (Ace)

Congratulations to everyone who entered the Cobb Photographic Society competition. The topic for August was "Portraits," and the guest judge was photographer Joe Boris. The Cobb Photographic Society is a club open to photographers of all skill levels. It meets the first and third Monday of each month. For information, visit [www.cobbphotosociety.com](http://www.cobbphotosociety.com).

Color



Jeff Westland - First Place (Garden Beauty)



Andreas Wierschen - Second Place (Cowboy)

Novice



Joy Rogers - First Place (Starlet)



Lori Mitchum - Second Place (3-2 Count)

Congratulations to our August 2023 competition winners with the theme, *Portraits*:

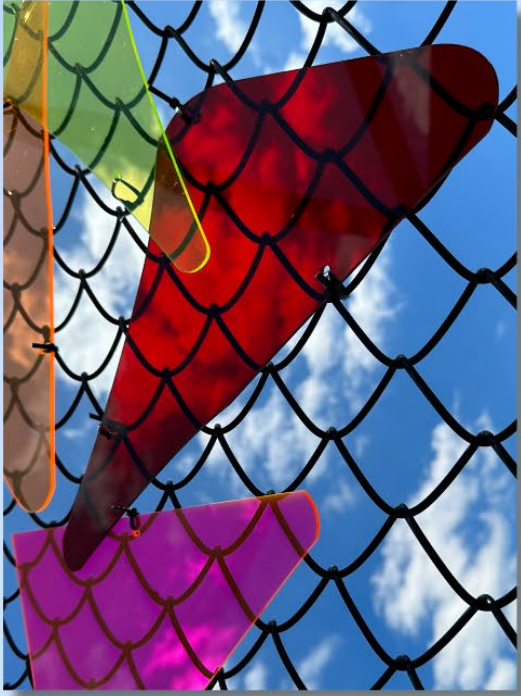
- Standard- Monochrome, First Place, **Andreas Wierschen**, *Ace*
- Standard- Color, First Place, **Jeff Westland**, *Garden Beauty*
- Standard- Color, Second Place, *Cowboy*
- Novice, First Place, **Joy Rogers**, *Starlet*
- Novice, Second Place, **Lori Mitchum**, *3-2 Count*



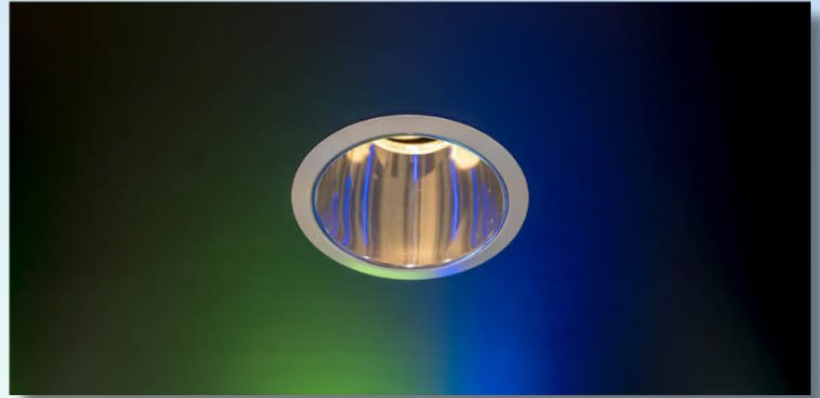
The *Around Acworth* magazine features our winners in print and online <https://aroundacworthmagazine.com/> at the rear of the magazine.

The *Around Kennesaw* magazine features our winners in print and online <https://www.aroundkennesawmagazine.com/> at the rear of the magazine.

# Novice Competition Winners



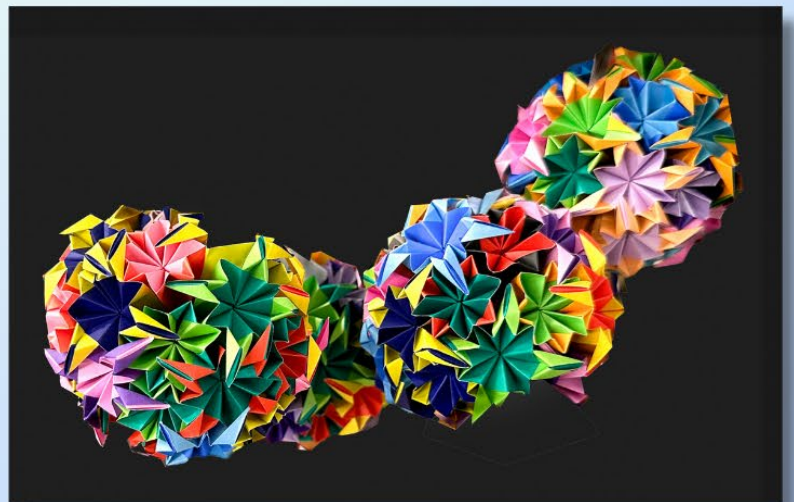
Second Place  
*Rainbow Links*  
Joyce Harrison



Third Place  
*Conquer Darkness*  
Anand Saokar.



Honorable Mention  
*Aqua Reflections*  
Joyce Harrison



Honorable Mention  
*Colorful Ballsr*  
Joyce Harrison

# Standard- Color Competition Winners



Second Place  
*Windblown*  
Jeffrey Whittingham



Third Place  
*Birds and Dead Tree at Sunsets*  
Jeffrey Whittingham



Honorable Mention  
*Down the Drain*  
Pat Fahey



Honorable Mention  
*Round Every Corner*  
Tim Wolfe

# Standard- Monochrome Competition Winners



Second Place  
*Skyward*  
Mark Chandler



Third Place  
*Checking Text*  
Mark Chandler



Honorable Mention  
*Tranquil Shapes*  
Tim Wolfe



Honorable Mention  
*Moorish Arches, Toledo*  
Ben Moravitz

## Member-2-Member's Classifieds and Websites

Email [faheyatlanta@gmail.com](mailto:faheyatlanta@gmail.com) if you have photographic items for sale or events that you or your business would like to advertise in our next magazine. Advertising your business website is OK as well. We encourage you, a member in good standing, to use your magazine as a resource.

### Personalized Coaching.



**David Batley**, a club member, announces: "I offer photo classes and workshops, both classroom and private tutoring sessions. Private tutoring sessions are tailored to the student's needs.

Contact me with questions and available dates. Text or call 404-314-6359."

### Upcoming Bruce Byers Workshops.



**Bruce Byers**, a New York photographer who conducted an exceptional presentation to the club earlier this year, passes on his upcoming workshops:

- **Jan 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024:** Gujarat, India [here](#).
- **Feb 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024:** Cuba [here](#).
- **March 1st, 2024:** Cuba [here](#).

## Upcoming Larry Winslett Workshops.



**Larry Winslett**, a long-time club supporter as a judge and presenter, passes on his upcoming workshops:

“I hope everyone is doing well and enjoying the nice fall weather and colors. This is a great time of year to get out and photograph. Here is an update on my November outings:

**Nov. 3** Fall Reflections at Stone Mountain ([ASOP](#))

The courses below are with the Univ of North GA; more information [here](#).

Course	Location	Start Date	End Date	Meets	Course Fee
<a href="#">Waterfalls &amp; Mountain Streams Photography</a> <b>Full</b>	Off-Site	11/10/23	11/10/23	F from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM	129.00
<a href="#">Digital Darkroom</a>	Cumming - City Hall 423	11/14/23	12/12/23	Tu from 10:00 AM to 12:30 AM (Skip 11/21)	179.00
<a href="#">Digital Darkroom</a>	Gainesville - Arts and Technology 1100	11/15/23	12/13/23	W from 6:00 PM to 8:30 PM (Skip 11/22)	179.00
<a href="#">Outdoor Photography</a>	Gainesville - Arts and Technology 1302	11/16/23	12/14/23	Th from 6:00 PM to 8:30 PM (Skip 11/23)	179.00

Visit for my complete listing [here](#) and my website at [www.larrywinslettphotography.com](http://www.larrywinslettphotography.com)”

## Judge's Featured Website: Mike Moreland.



**Mike Moreland's** senior and maternity portfolios are impressive. It was informative viewing his High School Seniors webpage with the many examples of how best to pose teenagers and adults alike. I also enjoyed his "at ease" posing style that yields excellent portraits- for any age group.

I couldn't help but chuckle when, in his Senior Portraits portfolio, totally composed of high school senior photos, was a lone photo of another "senior" fishing off a dock at dusk with his faithful dog (photo above). You gotta love Mike's humor.

It's a pleasure to view his commercial portrait photography [here](#). Photos are Mike's.

## Presenter's Featured Website: David Akoubian.



**David** is a long-time friend of our club, helping with occasional monthly judging and informative presentations.

David's focus is capturing our natural world: landscapes, birds, macro, and other related topics. Living in upstate Georgia, he is able to quickly drive to photograph waterfalls, vistas, and flora/fauna, native to Georgia and Tennessee/South Carolina.

His work is top-notch with a website name that says it all: [BearWoodsPhotography](#). Photos are David's.

# Articles, Photo News, Tips & Tricks, & Featured Website

## Updated Competition Entry Form for 2024.



Mandatory you check this box to certify that you:

- Took the photograph entries above in the last 24 months.
  - No Generative AI Fill, Generative AI Expand, or other AI functions were used in any of my submitted photographs (including AI-generated/modified sky replacements).
- If needed, you can review the CPS competition rules before submitting.

Our club competition rules [here](#) have always stated that all elements/images used in a competition photo submission must contain only your own work.

We need to clarify our competition rules with the just-released Artificial Intelligence (AI) functionality in Photoshop and Adobe Camera Raw. The AI will allow photographers to add elements (imagery) from Adobe Stock Photos that appear to be the photographer's work. While this is perfectly OK for non-competition work, **it is not allowed in competition.**

The AI is found in the *Contextual Toolbar*. From this toolbar is a **Generative Fill** text field, that when you enter text, like "blue sky", "jewelry around neck", or "blue parrot", Adobe will search Adobe's Stock Images and offer three AI-selected images/elements to insert in your image's selection. For example, a selection above a person's shoulder and typing "blue parrot" will offer you three images of blue parrots to fit in the selection. There's more to this, but this gives you the idea of AI power.

Using the *Remove Tool* appears to draw information only from your image. Based on current information, the **Remove Tool is OK** for editing photographs you plan to enter in our monthly competitions.

**Do not use Generative Fill or Generative Expand in competition photos.** At this time, articles detail that Adobe's Firefly AI and Adobe Stock images are searched and present three images that are not your work. **Not OK for our monthly competition.**

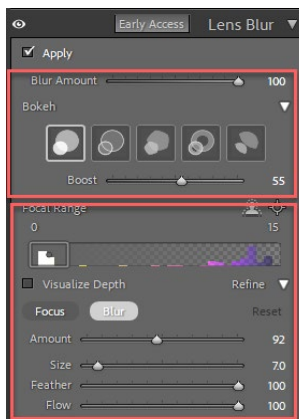
**Beginning Jan 2024**, use the Sep 2023 modified entry form [here](#). The club's competition form is modified to add another statement to the certification checkbox that states: "No Generative AI Fill, Generative AI Expand, or other AI functions were used in any of my submitted photographs (including AI-generated/modified sky replacements)."

If you are in doubt, contact our Competition Chair, [Laura Prescott](#) or any club officer.

## Adobe Lightroom Classic (LrC)/ACR Update: Lens Blur.

Lightroom now has another genuinely useful function that can add/enhance existing blur to your photo's foreground/background. The location(s), amount, and type of blur is controlled in the *Lens Blur* panel. It also uses a *Focal Range* depth scale that allows you to control where the focus and/or blur begins/ends.

In a photo I took a couple of days ago, I was happy with my *Big Dahlia and Baby Dahlia Bud* photo but just wanted a little more background blur. While f/2.8 could've helped, I wanted more of the Dahlia to be in focus and the breezes prevented me from using focus stacking. I could've used the LrC's masking feature, *Select Subject* or *Select Object* to isolate the flower and bud, quickly create a layer containing everything else and apply a mix of *Texture* and *Clarity* sliders (negative value) to also create the background blur effect. The added background lens blur on the right ►.



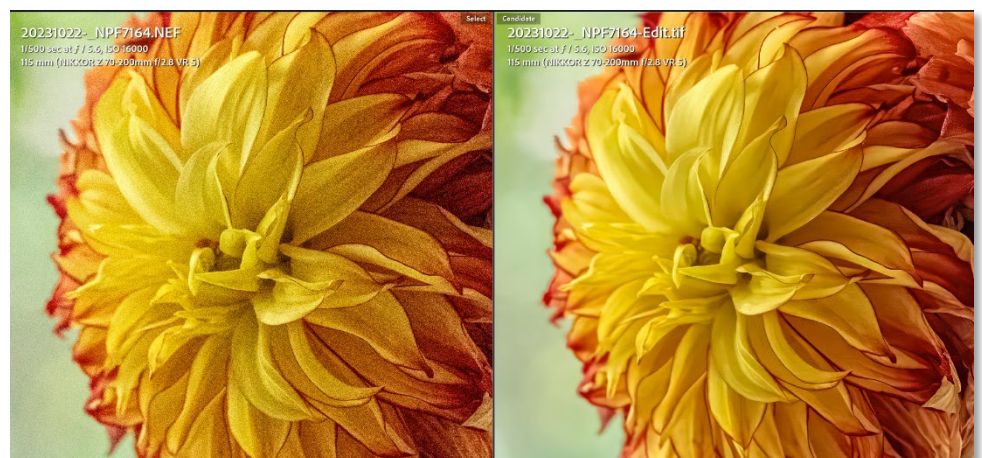
## Topaz Photo AI vs. Adobe Lightroom Classic (LrC)/ACR Denoise.

Short answer: Both are winners. Using Topaz's Photo AI (LrC's Denoise: Photo > Enhance > Denoise), the default 50% removed a lot of the noise (and was slightly sharpened by Photo AI). The photograph's ISO is **16,000**. Insane, right?

Topaz's results on the right ►. Adobe LrC produced the same excellent results.

I've found that photos without a lot of detail handle high ISOs well.

To be safe, if planning to photograph people or product photography above 1,250 ISO, take test shots before your session. The grain is more obvious at higher ISOs.



## Featured Websites: Colossal and Nikon Photographers of the Year.

This month we're featuring two websites to view our inner world: Colossal's 2022 close-up-level and Nikon's 2023 microscope-level; both sites are beautiful to behold.

View the websites, *Colossal* (close-up) [here](#) and Nikon's (microscope) website [here](#).



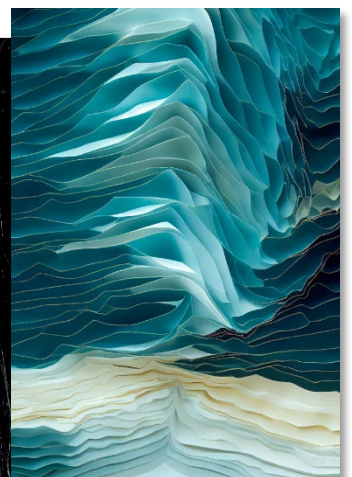
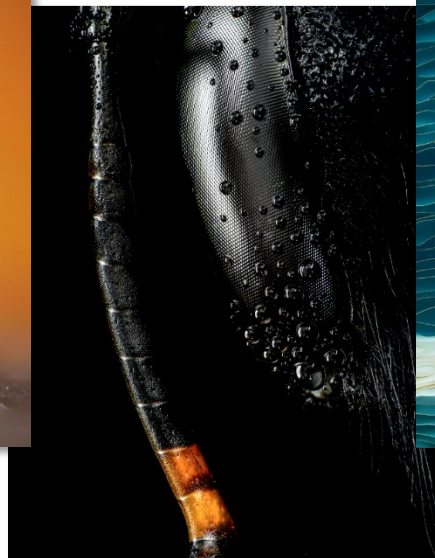
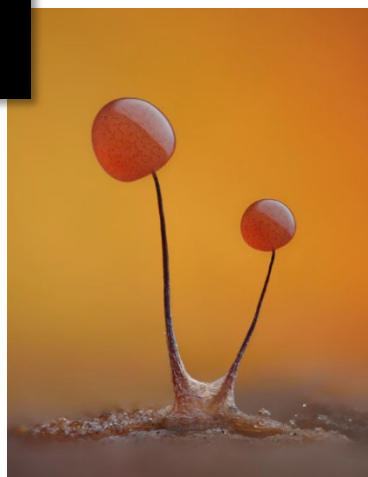
### *Colossal 2022 Photographers of the Year:*

- ◀ Little Naughty Draw Circle, Minghui Yuan
- ▼ Gordian Worm Knot, Ben Revell
- Hemitrichia Calyculata, Nathan Benstead ▼



### *Nikon Small World 2023 Photographers of the Year:*

- ◀ Golden Rutile in Quartz, Danny Sanchez
- ▼ Comatricha Nigra, Timothy Boomer
- Carpenter Bee Head and Antenna, ▼ Angel Davarro Gomez
- Crystallized Sugar Syrup, Diego Garcia ▼



Did you enjoy our club's monthly magazine?

Our club is a great community to expand your photo skills and make new friendships with other photographers.

Come join us!



<http://www.cobbphotosociety.com/membership>

49  
YEARS

Atlanta's Oldest Photo Club

Editors: Pat Fahey and Margaret Waage