

# Cobb Photographic Society



January 2025



*Second Chance Competition*

(Cover) Winner- Monochrome  
*Catch of the Day*  
Patrick Olmsted

(Above) Winner- Color  
*James*  
Melissa Moody

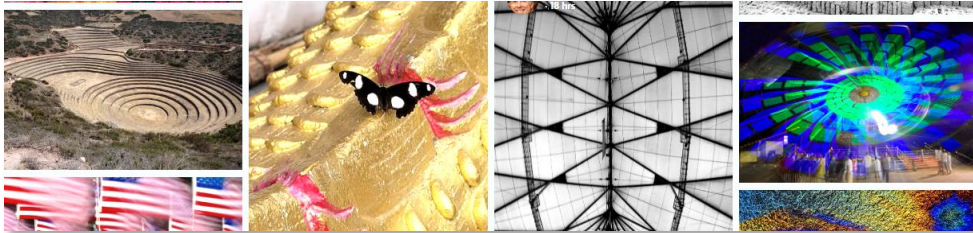


Winner- Novice  
*The Irish Notre Dame*  
Anand Saokar

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# Upcoming Activities and Events

## January 2025

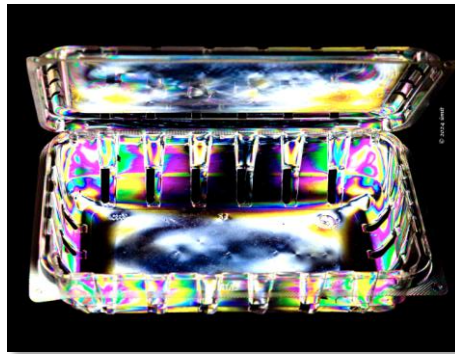


**Month of January. Photo Challenge: *Patterns All Around Us*. Marc Moskowitz**, our Photo Challenge moderator, set up the FB album for you to post your photos [here](#). This is a **fun event for all**. **All are welcome to submit photographs.**

**Mon, 6 Jan, 7 PM. Competition. *General Theme (any theme, any date)*.** This month is our most fun competition of the entire year. This competition, with no specific theme and the lifting of the two-year limit on when your photo was taken, is a fun time to search your photo library and walls for photos you would like to dust off and share. BTW, if you don't have a digital image of an older photo, feel free to use your camera and "take a photo of a photo". Remember, this is a fun competition! Come and join us at Sewell Mill Library/Cultural Center, 2051 Lower Roswell Road, Marietta or via Zoom [here](#). After the meeting, we'll head out for social time. **All are welcome.**



**Sat, 11 Jan, 11:30 to 4:30 PM. Community Outreach. Senior Citizen Photos.** **Margaret Waage**, Community Outreach Chair, invites us to photograph Cobb County senior citizens at Switzer Library's *Rogers Room*. We need members to fill different roles that afternoon. For more information, RSVP/Sign up [here](#). Graphic by **Margaret Waage**. **Club members volunteering to support this event only.**



**Wed, 15 Jan, 7 PM. Learning Workshop. Photographing Stress.** Ümit Yüksel, Learning Workshop Chair, leads us via Zoom to learn how to photograph the hidden stress in common, everyday glass and polymer objects. No special equipment or any prior technical knowledge will be needed for this course. RSVP/Sign up [here](#). **Club members only.**



**Thu, 16 Jan, 5 PM. Member Exhibit Reception. Lori Mitchum's Solo Exhibit.** Join Lori as she celebrates her first solo exhibit at The Mable House Arts Center, 5239 Floyd Road SW, Mableton, GA 30126. If you can't attend the exhibit reception, the exhibit runs from January 16 - February 1, Monday-Friday 9 AM-5 PM. Admission and parking are free. Contact Lori if you have questions [here](#). **All are welcome.**



**Sat, 18 Jan, 6 AM (from Sewell Mill Library).** **Field Trip. Sandhill Cranes.** Join **Ümit Yüksel** on a popular birding trip. This is a prime location for photographing sandhill cranes, usually 8-14 THOUSAND of them, and other waterfowl like Canada and snow geese, white pelicans, ducks and mallards at eye level. Their numbers peak in mid-December through January. If we're lucky, we may even see whooping cranes. RSVP/Sign up [here](#). Photos by **Bill White, Ümit Yüksel, and Rick Olson. Club members only.**

**Mon, 20 Jan, 7 PM.** **Continuing Education. Presentation Evening.** Join our host, **Hylos Barrett**, for this evening's Zoom-only educational presentation [here](#). **All are welcome.**

**Tue, 21 Jan, 7 PM.** **Welcome. 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 monthly competitions. 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.**



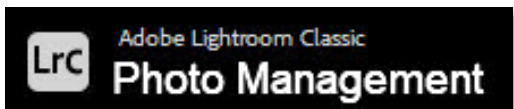
*New Member  
"Chat and Plan"  
Over Coffee*

**Sat, 25 Jan, 10 AM.** **New Members. "Chat and Plan".** Over coffee, new members will meet other new members and several other experienced club members to discuss their photography goals and plan how to get the best out of their club membership. **Ronda Clark**, Membership Chair, will directly contact new members via email. All are welcome; if you'd like to join as well, you can email Ronda [here](#). The coffee shop, [Cool Beans Coffee Roasters](#), located at 31 Mill St NE Ste 100, Marietta, GA 30060, is right off Marietta Square. **New members and other club members are welcome.**

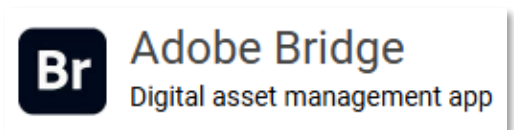
**Mon, 27 Jan, 3 PM. Competition. Deadline for Digital Images, Theme: *The Ordinary*.** Using the updated CPS entry form [here](#), email the entry form and photos to [cpdigital2023@gmail.com](mailto:cpdigital2023@gmail.com) for the next competition. **Club members only.**

## Future Activities and Events

**Mon, 3 Feb, 7 PM. Competition. Theme: *The Ordinary*.** Come and join us at Sewell Mill Library/Cultural Center, 2051 Lower Roswell Road, Marietta or via Zoom [here](#). After the meeting, we'll head out for social time. **All are welcome.**



**New! Wed, 5 Feb, 7 PM. Learning Workshop. (1 of 3 sessions): *Lightroom Classic (LrC) Basics- Photo Management*.** Join **Pat Fahey**, over Zoom, as we explore, in the first session, how LrC manages photos and tips to organize your photos for easier searches. RSVP/Sign up will go out early January. **Club members only.**



**New! Wed, 6 Feb, 7 PM. Learning Workshop. (1 of 1): *Bridge Basics*.** Join **Ümit Yüksel**, over Zoom, as we explore the basics of Adobe's *Bridge*. RSVP/Sign up will go out early January. **Club members only.**



Even more training is coming in 2025 from **Ümit Yüksel**. Details next month. **Club members only.**



**New! Thu-Sun, 24-27 Apr. Extended Field Trip. Florida Birding and Wildlife Trip.** Like the last two years, this trip will "focus" on all varieties of water birds: from osprey and eagles to kingfishers and herons. But this year, there will be more than birds and gators! Read on for a full description of what awaits your lens on the RSVP/Sign up [here](#)! **Note:** Thursday and Sunday are largely days of travel. Photos by **Jeanene Hamaker**. **Club members only.**

# Notes from Around Our Club

They Say It's Your...

*Birthday!*

- 10 Jan, Jeff Whittingham
- 11 Jan, Melissa Moody
- 11 Jan, Bill White
- 12 Jan, Guy Marlow
- 13 Jan, Rob Herman
- 29 Jan, Kim Koch

## 2025 Competition Standings- Overall and Division.

In January, we clear the totals and begin fresh for 2025. The 2025 end of year winners are determined by a running point total, January through November, for each of our three divisions. Points are awarded for each winning 2025 photo based on the award level (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and Honorable Mention). The highest points= *Photographer of the Year* in the *Novice*; *Standard: Color*, and *Standard: Monochrome*. And the one award to rule them all (Standard: Color + Monochrome), *Overall Photographer of the Year*.

Overall: (pending January's competition)  
Novice Division: (pending January's competition)  
Standard Division: Monochrome: (pending January's competition)  
Standard Division: Color: (pending January's competition)

**2024 CPS Membership Recognition.** Thanks to all the members who supported the club over the years. It's a pleasure to recognize those whose five-year membership milestone occurred during the year of 2024:

### 50 years: *Founding Members!*

Guy Marlow  
Carter Darnell

### 45 Years

Mary Abernathy

### 30 Years

CJ Andretta

### 25 years

Ümit Yüksel

### 15 years

Phyllis Westland  
Ralph Burr

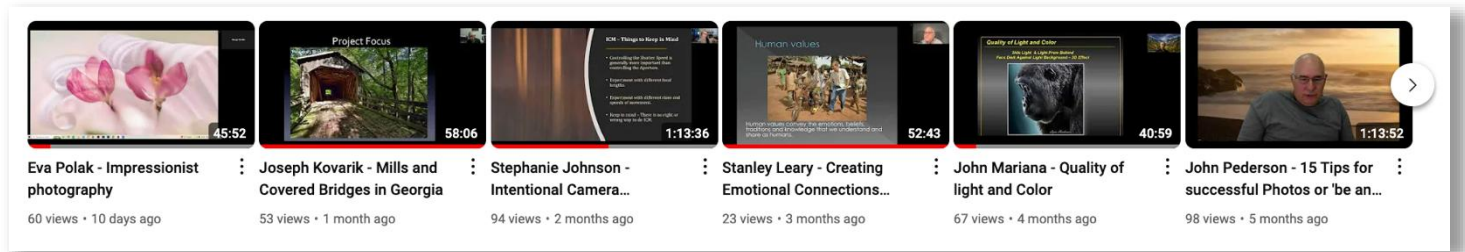
### 10 years

Rick Olson

### 5 years

Michael Brown  
Rob Herman  
Angie Nasrallah

## Monthly CPS YouTube Presentations.



You can review our club's presentation videos from the last 3+ years [here](#).

## 2025 Dues Are... Due.



Please pay your 2025 \$40 dues by mid-January.

A couple of options are:



• PayPal link: You can click [here](#) (go to the bottom of the club's web page for the **Pay with PayPal** button).

- Pay by cash or check in-person at our competition meeting or any field trip, learning workshop, or social event.
- Mail your check directly to our Treasurer, **Rob Herman** at: Cobb Photographic Society, c/o Rob Herman, CPS Treasurer 1020 Millridge Lane SE Marietta, GA 30067-5472.

## 2025 Monthly Photo Challenges.

Most of you know that **Mark Chandler** maintained the club's monthly photo challenges over the years. Starting Jan 2025, **Marc Moskowitz** will moderate the monthly photo challenges.

This is a ***FUN challenge*** for all members to participate and post their photos to a club FB album. No prizes and no awards; just your personal participation in a fun environment! If you have questions, contact Marc [here](#).

Monthly Photo Challenge (all month)	Photo Challenge Theme
January	Patterns all around us
February	Celebration
March	Shoes
April	Puts a smile on my face
May	It's alive!
June	Colors of spring
July	Feels like I'm home
August	America the beautiful
September	Nighttime lights
October	I found it on a walk
November	Past their prime
December	(no challenge; enjoy the holidays)

**January 2025 CPS Membership Recognition.** Thanks to all the members who supported the club over the years. It's a pleasure to recognize those whose five-year membership milestone occurs during this month:

### 30 Years

Paul Shimek

### 15 years

Mark Chandler

## Annual Awards Dinner, Speaker, and Social (1 of 3).

We had a very enjoyable time coming together to recognize our top photographers this year at the Marietta Fish Market. The room was a tiny bit cramped but, as always, we made the best of the situation and celebrated our club's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

**Paul Shimek** took the *Top Photographer of the Year*, *Color Photographer of the Year*, and *Monochrome Photographer of the Year*. **Joyce Harrison** took the *Novice Photographer of the Year*.



The 2024 *Best Photos of the Year* awards went to **Patrick Olmsted** (Standard: Color and Standard: Monochrome) and **Lori Mitchum** won Novice *Best Photos of the Year*.

Following this article is an article on **Patrick Olmsted's** speaker presentation.



We took time to recognize **Paul Shimek** stepping away from monthly competitions as he strikes out to photograph the world on his terms.

After watching the four minute video of his most recent work, Paul received our club's honorary membership, and we recognized his 30 years of CPS membership.

Thanks to **Ümit Yüksel** and **Melissa Moody** for “working the room” as our event photographers. You can view the evening's photos [here](#).



**Annual Awards Dinner, Speaker, and Social (2 of 3).**

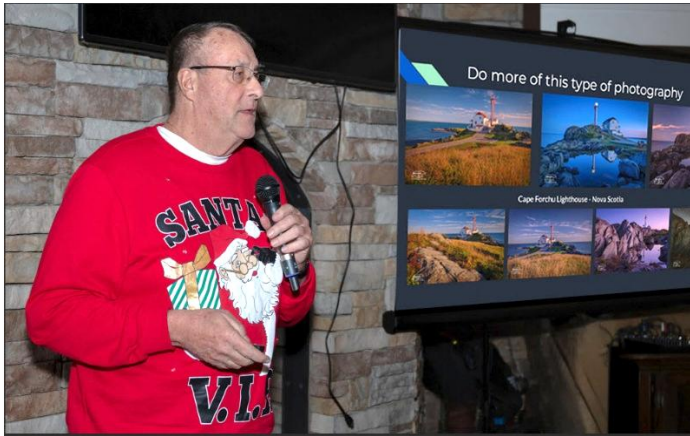


Awards Photo by **Ralph Burr**

**Annual Awards Dinner,  
Speaker, and Social (3 of 3).**



## CPS Awards Dinner Speaker.



**Patrick Olmsted**, winner of CPS 2024's Monochrome and Color *Best Photos of the Year*, presented tips and processes to help you better your photography.

Patrick also told his story of setting goals, identifying and focusing on what he wanted to accomplish, acquiring tools to achieve your goals, and going for it.

Some of the tips ran from:

- Compare this year's photos with last year's photos to identify areas that need improvement.
- Identify and address shortfalls in your photographic and software skills.
- Set goals you can meet for the new year.
- Get out every chance you can and take photos!

You can download Patrick's speaker slides in pdf format [here](#).

## Monthly "Chat and Plan" For New Members.



*New Member  
"Chat and Plan"  
Over Coffee*

Over coffee, new members will meet other new members and several other experienced club members to discuss their photography goals

and plan how to get the best out of their club membership.

**Ronda Clark**, Membership Chair, will directly contact new members via email. If you'd like to join as well, you can email Ronda [here](#).

The coffee shop, [Cool Beans Coffee Roasters](#), located at 31 Mill St NE Ste 100, Marietta, GA 30060, is right off Marietta Square. **Contacted new members and any other members are welcome.**

## CPS 2025 Monthly Competition Themes Schedule.

Monday Deadline for Digital Submission	Monday Competition Evening	Competition Theme
<b>2025</b>		
December 30	January 6 *	General – Vintage (no theme or 2-year limit)
January 27	February 3	The Ordinary
February 24	March 3	Door(s) / Window(s) <b>Prints-only</b>
March 31	April 7	Georgia On My Mind (Photos taken in GA)
April 28	May 5	Trees
May 26	June 2	Wet <b>Prints-only</b>
July 7	July 14 **	Seasons
July 28	August 4	Motorcycle(s) / Bicycle(s) / Tricycle(s)
September 1	September 8 **	Shadows <b>Prints-only</b>
September 29	October 6	Architecture
October 27	November 3	Something Broken
November 17	(closed) ***	Winning 2025 photos compete for a wild card 1 <sup>st</sup> place in each of the three divisions. ***
None	Xmas Party	End of Year Awards Ceremony

Unsure of what a theme means/looks like? Our Competition Chair, Laura Prescott, developed a document with definitions/pictures to help you get going. View the document [here](#).

\* January's Competition is wide open! No limit on theme (family-friendly) or date photograph was taken. **Note:** No AI is allowed in the photo; it must be *all your work*.

\*\* July and September Competition evenings are always pushed back a week due to the 4th of July and Labor Day holidays.

\*\*\* The month of November is not open for a general competition. Club members who placed 2nd through Honorable Mention compete for a wild-card first place in the *Best of the Year* competition in our Novice, Standard: Color, and Standard: Monochrome divisions. Winners are announced at our December Christmas party.

**Prints-only** - Three themes a year are set aside for **Prints-only** monthly competitions. There is no Zoom session during the three Prints-only competitions; we encourage you to come to Sewell Mill Library/Cultural Center and view our members' print craftsmanship.

## Giving Back to Cobb's Senior Citizen Community.



Senior Citizen Council of COBB COUNTY  
COBB Photographic SOCIETY

*CAPTURE your ESSENCE with Photo Fun!*

**JANUARY 11**  
12:30 PM - 3:30 PM  
SWITZER LIBRARY  
266 Roswell St NE, Marietta, GA

The Senior Citizen Council of Cobb County, along with the Cobb Photographic Society, invite you to a collaborative event to welcome 2025 with a photographic keepsake:

**NEW YEAR NEW YOU  PORTRAITS**

Participants will receive 2 digital files ready for sharing or printing. Register here for this FREE photo event:

**Margaret Waage**, club member and co-editor of this magazine, is seeking additional volunteer photographers and Lightroom users for the 'New Year New You Senior Portraits' event on **Saturday, January 11 from 11:30 to 4:30 PM at the Switzer Library.**

The event is a community-based opportunity, jointly sponsored by **Senior Citizens Council of Cobb County**, to provide a venue for our senior citizens to pose for a professional portrait that highlights their unique personality and style. Participants will receive two complimentary digital files.

If you are interested in participating, please RSVP/sign up [here](#) to volunteer for:

- **Photographer.** Bring your camera and studio set up.
- **Photographer and Editor.** With your studio set up and tethered laptop, photograph and review/mark the photos on your laptop with the senior.
- **Editor.** Skip the photography part and bring your laptop to import the photos from a photographer (not tethered) and assist the senior review/mark the photos.
- **Pre-Photo Shoot Assistant/At-large volunteer.** No studio lights, camera, or laptop but just want to help?

We'd love some help assisting seniors with props selection, demonstrating 2-3 poses to seniors before they are photographed with their prop(s), verifying their information card shows the correct name and email address, or wherever else you can help.

## Explaining CPS' *Second Chance* and *Best of the Year* Competitions.

### *Second Chance* Criteria

How do we pick the  
*Second Chance*?

There are three *CPS* competition divisions: (Novice, Standard: Color, and Standard: Mono).

One second chance winner from each division goes on to compete with the 1<sup>st</sup> Place photos for *Best of the Year Photo*.

2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and  
Honorable Mention  
2024 winner  
resubmissions  
=  
Second Chance  
Competition Pool

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### *Best of the Year* Criteria

How do we pick the  
*Best of the Year*?

11, First Place  
Monthly Winners  
+  
One Second Chance  
Winning Photo  
=  
Best of the Year Pool

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And now, our *Best of the Year* Photo Winners...



Novice Division's Best Photo of the Year  
*New Beginnings*, Lori Mitchum



Standard Division's Monochrome Best Photo of the Year  
*Catch of the Day*, Patrick Olmsted

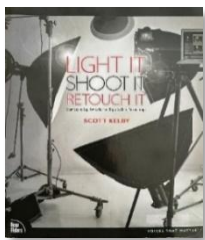


Standard Division's Best Color Photo of the Year  
*On the Edge, Patrick Olmsted*

## 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.

### Free Kelby Book: *Light It, Shoot It, Retouch It.*



**Pat Fahey**, a club member, offers Scott Kelby's first edition, *Light It, Shoot It, Retouch It*. The book completely documents every step to photographing a large number of studio setups. An excellent book. I'll bring the book to our next competition evening.

### Private Tutoring with Club Member, David Batley.



**David Batley**, a recognized club member and instructor, is available for his popular "What Button Do I Push Now?" with private tutoring.

Don't be frustrated. Learn the most important stuff about your camera. Sessions are usually about 2 or 2 and 1/2 hours and the fee is \$99.

Contact David at 4043146359 or by email: [dbphotodesign@comcast.net](mailto:dbphotodesign@comcast.net).

**Judge's Featured Website: John Pederson.** Visit John's website [here](#).

**2024 Judge for:**  
*Second Chance  
and  
Best of the Year*  
*John Pedersen*

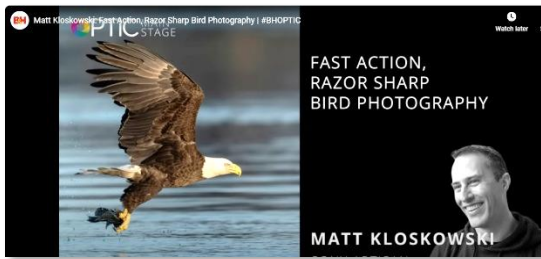
**John Pederson**

"I use natural lighting and thoughtful composition to draw the viewer in to the scene, to help them visualize what it was like to be in a beautiful location and to connect them with the wonders of nature."

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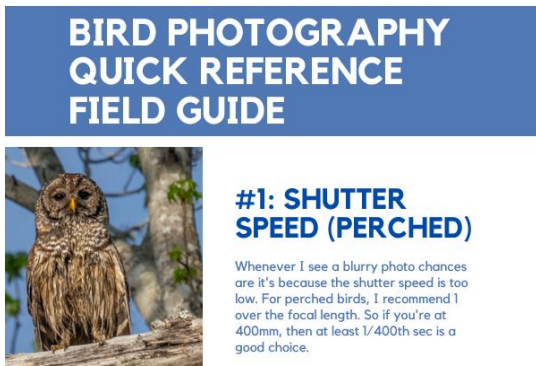
# Articles, Photo News, Tips & Tricks, & Featured Website

## Bird Photography with Matt Kloskowski. [Ed: Excellent Primer!]



Our January field trip is to photograph Sandhill Cranes in Alabama. What better way to get us excited about the field trip than view an informative bird photography video by **Matt Kloskowski** [here](#)?

Matt starts off his presentation explaining how to take a good photo, by quoting **Ansel Adams**: “A good photograph is knowing where to stand.” He follows up on Ansel’s quote with the concept “embrace the chaos”. Matt wants you to pre-set your camera settings, get situated in the right location, and then, forgetting the camera, embrace the chaos unfolding in front of you.



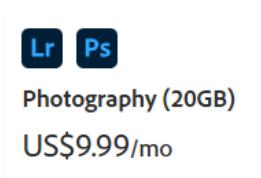
You can visit Matt’s website [here](#) as well as download a free *Bird Photography Quick Reference Field Guide* pdf [here](#). An option to consider: download the pdf to your smartphone.

At the download site, does Matt offer you his paid online birding course/courses? You bet, but it’s still a good general primer to camera settings and location considerations to get the best photo.

## Jan 2025 Price Increase for Selected Adobe Creative Cloud Plans.

**Victoria Bampton**, aka “The Lightroom Queen” and **Matt Kloskowski** have information on their websites about the **upcoming 15 Jan 2025 price increases**.

If you currently subscribe to one of Adobe’s photography’s plans, you’ll want to read at least one of the two articles below. **Please read one or both of the articles.**



I think most of us who subscribe, chose the 20GB *Lightroom and Photoshop* annual plan package for \$9.99 a month (we pay \$9.99 every month for a total of \$120). If you are currently on this annual plan, your price will stay at \$9.99 a month through the annual plan.

**Note:** If you are not a current subscriber of the 20GB *Lightroom and Photoshop* annual plan subscriber, note this plan will not be offered after 15 Jan 2025 to new subscribers.

But, all questions are answered at Victoria’s website [here](#) and Matt’s website [here](#). Surprisingly, there is very little pricing increase information on Adobe’s website.

## Featured Website: Nikon Comedy Wildlife Awards.

OK. Christmas season-induced stress is almost over so here's a chance to unwind, smile, and wonder how the photographer was so lucky to catch the decisive moment. If you like, when you see a super-funny photo, repeat the phrase, "You lucky dog."

Each photo has the photographer's background story. View the photographs [here](#).



Photo credits (top)  
**Jose Molina**, *Mantis Flamenca*  
**Sarthak Ranganadhad**, *Smooching Owlets*



Photo credits (bottom)  
**Leslie McCloud**, *Hide and Seek*  
**Kinston Tam**, *Awkward Smiley Frog*



Bonus URL. You can view past year's finalists [here](#).

Enjoy spending 10 more minutes going down another internet rabbit hole. But... funny photos await.

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>

50+ YEARS

1974 - 2025

CPS editors: Pat Fahey and Margaret Waage