

Cobb Photographic Society



August 2026



Competition Theme: *Patterns*

(Cover) Winner- Monochrome
Vitruvian Blue
Melissa Moody

(Above) Winner- Color
Pasaquan
Marc Moskowitz



Winner- Novice
Stack
Maryann Crow

- 4 Upcoming Activities and Events
- 8 Notes From Around Our Club
- 26 Member-2-Member Classifieds
- 27 Articles, Tips & Tricks, and Featured Website

This Month's Activities and Events

August 2026



All Month. Photo Challenge. Theme: *Planes, Trains, Buses, and Cars*. **Marc Moskowitz**, our *Photo Challenge* moderator, set up a club FB album for you to post your month's photos [here](#). Photos by **Marc Moskowitz**, **James Lambert**, **Dee Dee Bonesteel**, and **Spiff Carner** are just some of the photos uploaded so far. *This is a fun event for all*. **All are welcome**, members and non-members, to submit photographs.



Competition Evening

Mon, 3 Aug, 7 PM. Competition. Theme: *Something Old/Vintage*. Come and join us at the Sewell Mill Library/Cultural Center for this evening's **Digital Prints** competition. For this competition, there will be Zoom access [here](#). We always encourage you to stop by to hear the competition photos critique by our visiting judge. After the meeting, we'll head out for optional social time. **All are welcome.**



Sat, 8 Aug, Noon. [Learning Workshop](#). [How to apply the Orton Effect in Digital Photography and Landscape Editing Tips](#). A technique called the "Orton Effect" may pump life into landscape images that you want to love. And it can all be done in either Adobe Lightroom or Photoshop! **Rick Olson** will show how using "range masks" in Lightroom can breathe new life into flat landscape images, and **Michael Parvin** will do the same using two different approaches in Photoshop. You are welcome to attend either session or both. These will be LIVE DEMONSTRATIONS, so please bring your laptops. Photos by **Rick Olson**. More information/RSVP [here](#). **Members only**.



Fri, 14 Aug, 7:30 PM. [Field Trip](#). [Milky Way/Star Trails/Deep Space](#). Your Milky Way and star trail shots will include an excellent foreground: beautiful Chatuge Lake, NC. The walk from the large parking area requires approximately zero steps, and it's all level! There will be some space-spice: for those interested in getting "deeper" into night sky photography, Ümit will assist with DSO's, (deep sky objects). Nebulae, open star clusters, globular star clusters - even other galaxies "*far, far away*". More information/RSVP [here](#). Photos by **Ümit Yüksel**. **Members only**.



Continuing Education Evening

Mon, 17 Aug, 7 PM. Continuing Education. Presentation Evening. Join our host, **Hylos Barrett**, for this evening's Zoom-only educational presentation [here](#). Hylos will email all club members the week before with more information. **All are welcome.**



Welcome/Orientation Evening

Tue, 18 Aug, 7 PM. Welcome/Orientation. New Members Zoom. **Dee Dee Bonesteel**, our club's Secretary and Welcome Chair, welcomes our newest members to learn about our club's resources and review the process of competing in our monthly competitions. Q&A time included. Dee Dee will email the Zoom meeting URL a couple of days before the Zoom session to our new members. **New members only.**



*New Member
"Chat and Plan"*

Sat, 29 Aug, 10:30 AM. Membership. New Members' Meeting. **Ronda Clark**, Membership Chair, will meet with our newest members at Switzer Library to learn about upcoming field trips, learning workshops, and other activities for the rest of the year. An optional lunch and Marietta Square walkabout follows. **New members only.**

Upcoming Activities and Events

Mon, 7 Sep, 3 PM. **Competition.** **Deadline for Digital Images,** Theme: *Bridges or Tunnels*. Using the updated CPS entry form [here](#), email the entry form and photos to cpsdigital2023@gmail.com. FYI, digital photos are required for both **Digital Only** and **Prints Only** competitions by the above deadline. FYI, the competition is pushed back a week to not conflict with Labor Day's three day weekend. **Members only.**

Mon, 14 Sep, 7 PM. **Competition.** Theme: *Bridges or Tunnels*. Come and join us at the Sewell Mill Library/Cultural Center for this evening's **Prints Only** competition. For this competition, there will be no Zoom access. We always encourage you to stop by to view the prints and hear the competition photos critique by our visiting judge. After the meeting, we'll head out for optional social time. **All are welcome.**

Sat, 19 Sep, 9:30 AM (Dprt Sewell Mill 9 AM) . **Field Trip.** *Exploring the Atlanta Beltline*. More information/ RSVP [here](#). **Members only.**

Pending Confirmation **Sun, 20 Sep.** **Field Trip.** *JapanFest*. An annual trip that encourages photos of attendees and performers in costume. Your entrance fee is waived and you'll receive lunch tickets. More information/ RSVP pending. **Members only.**

Sat, 17 Oct. **NG3C.** *North Georgia Camera Club Council (NG3C) inter-club competition.* Day-long competition between ~10 photo clubs at Dallas, GA. **Members only.**

Notes From Around Our Club

Competition Evening- *Patterns.*



Andy Wilson, a long-time friend of the club, did a top-notch job as this month's visiting judge. Consistent with recognized photo competition judging criteria, Andy pointed out how to make our photos even better by cropping to further isolate what is important and other timely tips.



Photos by
Jeff Westland

Presentation Evening- *Creating Your Own Photographic Series.*



Another friend of the club and initiator of the latest club challenge, **Robin Davis** reviewed the works of club members who participated in the *Creating Your Own Photographic Series* challenge. Together with **Michael Parvin**, members had the benefit of two mentors during the challenge's window.

More photographic series photos on page 24-25. Photos by **Rick Olson**.



They Say It's Your...

Birthday!

- 1 Aug **Michael Parvin**
- 5 Aug **Chandler Bridges**
- 8 Aug **Martin O'Toole**
- 8 Aug **Brian Moss**
- 10 Aug **Tanya Burr**
- 24 Aug **Brian Chapman**
- 27 Aug **Jay (Jason) Hill**

2026 Competition Standings- Overall and Division.

Every January, we clear the totals and begin fresh for next year. The 2026 end of year winners are determined by a running point total, January through November, for each of our three divisions.

Overall:	Melissa Moody
Novice Division:	Maryann Crow
Standard Division: Monochrome:	Melissa Moody and Jeff Westland
Standard Division: Color	Ralph Burr, Melissa Moody, and Patrick Olmsted

CPS T-Shirt and Golf Shirt Ordering Now Open.



You can now order your club T-shirts and golf shirts.

The order form will close out on **Fri, 15 Sep** so those attending the October NG3C will have their shirts in time for the NG3C Shootout.

Notes:

- Prices are expected to be the same as last year.
- Recommend ordering the shirts slightly larger to compensate for slight shrinkage.

More information/RSVP [here](#).

August Magazine Is All About Black and White.

This month's *Articles* and *Featured Website* sections (pages 27-30) are focused on presenting training articles and an interview covering black and white photography.

Enjoy this month's focus on black and white photography.

CPS Member David Batley's Conservation Exhibit (1 of 2)

Club member, **David Batley** finished a month+ exhibit at Sewell Mill Library that was recognized by Governor Kemp for promoting Georgia conservation.

The attendance at the end-of-exhibit reception spoke volumes that the appeal of the exhibit was universal by all who understood we need to defend our Georgia coast.



Says David,

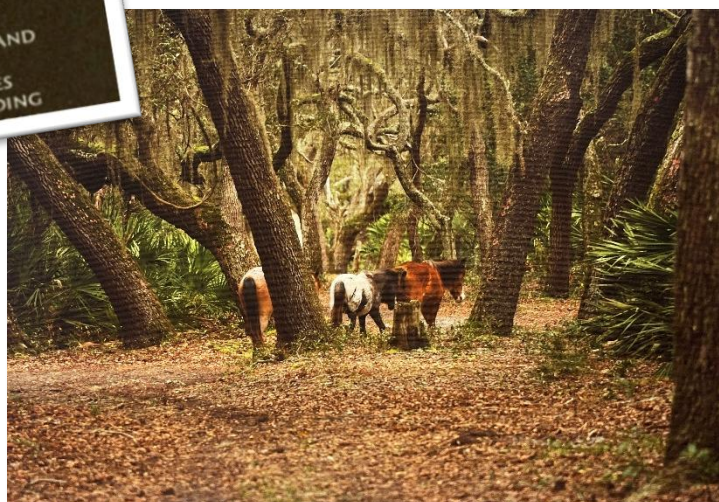
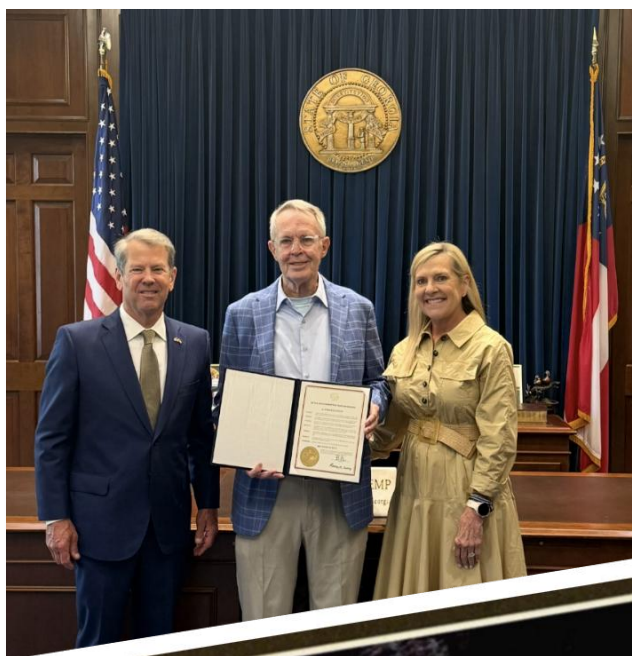
“My recent exhibit, ***This You Should Know: Our Fragile Georgia Coast***, at the Sewell Mill Cultural Center was a great success that concluded with a closing reception on July 9th. I was honored to have wonderful feedback from folks who were present, to include CPS members, along with family, friends, and lots of people that attended. Also attending was the Commissioner and senior staff of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, several local Cobb district representatives, and members of the Georgia House of Representatives.

I was also honored to receive a commendation from Governor Kemp during an invitation to the Capitol on June 23, where I was able to talk to him and the First Lady about my experiences visiting and photographing the beautiful Georgia coast over the past five decades (photo next page).

CPS Member David Batley's Conservation Exhibit (2 of 2).

I am especially pleased that many of my photographs were purchased, the proceeds from which will be donated to two non-profits that advocate for preserving our coastal wilderness. Also, three images have been chosen and gifted to the non-profit Chattahoochee River Keepers for the purpose of raising money at their annual auction this coming September.

All of this attention solidifies my belief that we, as photographers, have stories to tell with our images that can have impact." *David*



Monthly CPS YouTube Presentations.



Over the last months, we've experienced problems posting to our CPS YouTube site. These missing videos are listed below and older videos are posted on our YouTube site [here](#):

- Jul 2026, Robin Davis', Creating Your Photographic Series is [here](#).
- Jun 2026, Marvin Price's *Travel With an iPhone (Smartphone)* is [here](#).
- May 2026, Larry Winslett's *Capturing Dynamic Wildlife Photos* is [here](#).
- Apr 2026, John Mariana's *The Fine Print Art* is [here](#).
- Mar 2026, Robin Davis' *Creating Your Photographic Series* is [here](#).
- FYI: Feb 2026 presenter unable to attend.
- Jan 2026, Mike Moats' *Creative Ways to Photograph Flowers* is [here](#).
- Dec 2025. No presentation during December; family time.
- Nov 2025, Glen Varnhagan's *Planning Your Trip* is [here](#).
- Oct 2025, Mike Birnbaum's *Photographing Nature's Food Chain* is [here](#).
- FYI, Sep 2025 presenter unable to attend. Time was spent between members sharing photos and a lot of informative, "Behind the Scenes" details.
- Aug 2025, David Johnston's *The Magic of Waterfall Photography* is [here](#).
- Jul 2025, Mike Robertson's *Off Camera Lighting* is [here](#).
- Jun 2025, Tom Wilson's *Favorite Places to Photograph Just Outside GA*, video is [here](#).

Update: 2027 Competition Themes to be Released Soon.

COBB
Photographic
SOCIETY

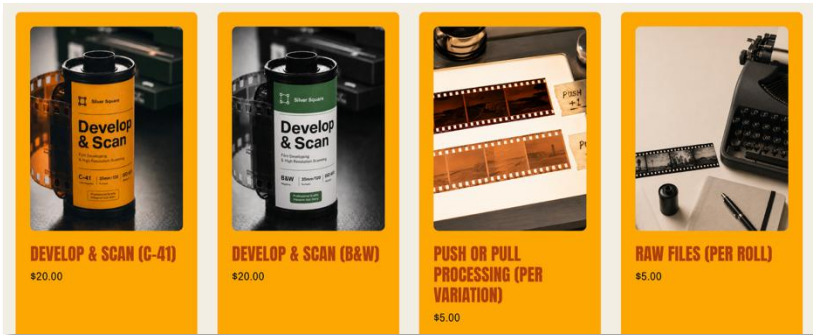
CPS 2026 - 2027 Monthly Competition Schedule

Monday Deadline for Digital Submission	Monday Competition Evening	Competition Theme
2027		
December 28	January 4*	General
January 25	February 1	

Your Competition Chair, **Laura Prescott**, is presently finalizing the 2027 themes.

Members asked for more advance notice so they could consider another angle/technique when taking 2026 vacation photos.

Just-Opened Film Processing Lab in Marietta.



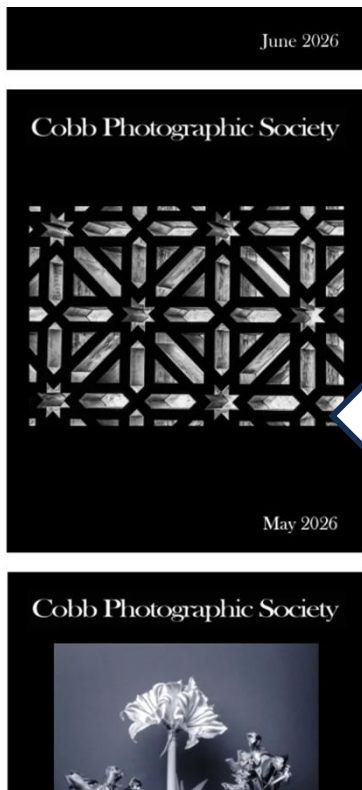
Thanks to **Maura Davies** for the alert that a film-processing company, *Silver Square Film Lab*, is offering “just-opened” special processing prices in August.

Several members still enjoy processing film but occasionally ask if there are drop-off store

locations near Marietta. *Silver Square Film Lab* couldn't be closer to us at 137 Church St NE in Marietta, GA. More information at their website [here](#).

If you've had success with other local or mail-in labs for film processing or film/digital printing, email me [here](#) and we'll run your update in upcoming magazines.

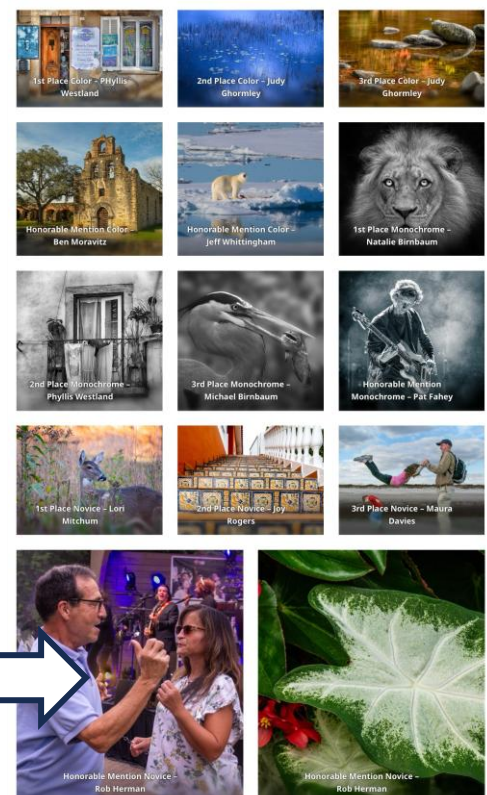
Past Club Resources Available Online.



Mark Chandler, the “Webmaster Behind the CPS Website” does a great job ensuring our club's history is captured every month for future enjoyment.

Like to enjoy a past club magazine issue? Click [here](#).

How about viewing winning full-size photos from our monthly competitions? Yes. FYI, from the *Competition* page, click the month you wish to view (red links are active) Click [here](#).



Follow Us

Standard- Color Competition Winners

14



2nd Place
Nature's Art
Pat Fahey



3rd Place
Flip Flops
Mark Buckert

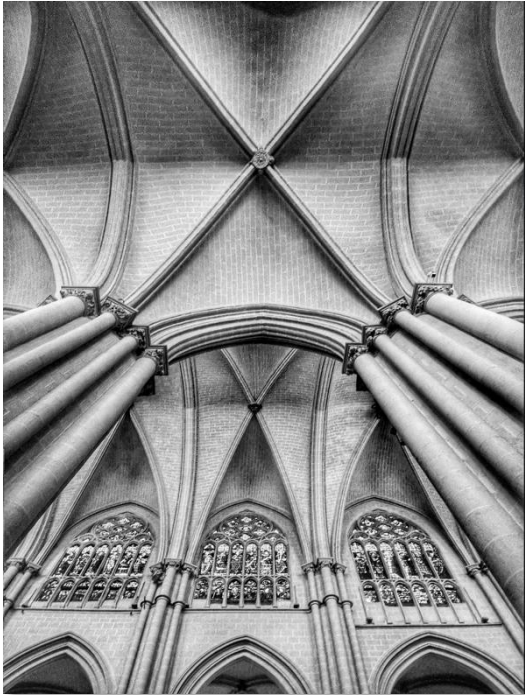


Honorable Mention
Sunflower Layers
Spiff Carner



Honorable Mention
Heliospheric
Ümit Yüksel

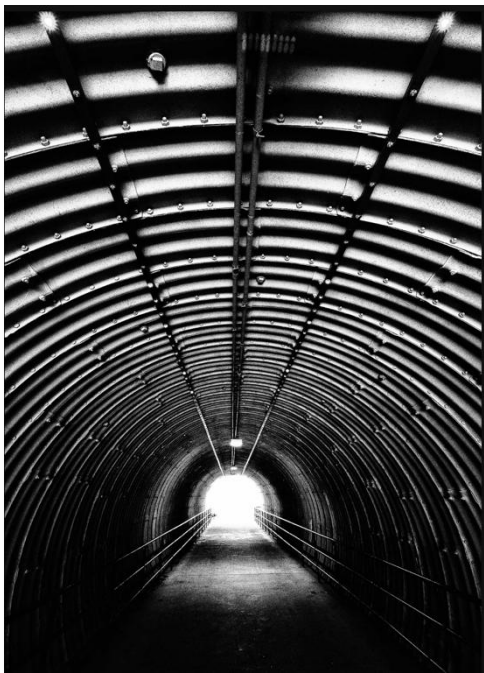
Standard- Monochrome Competition Winners ¹⁵



2nd Place
Above My Head
Jeff Westland



3rd Place
Looking Up
Marc Moskowitz



Honorable Mention
Walk Towards the Light
Spiff Carner



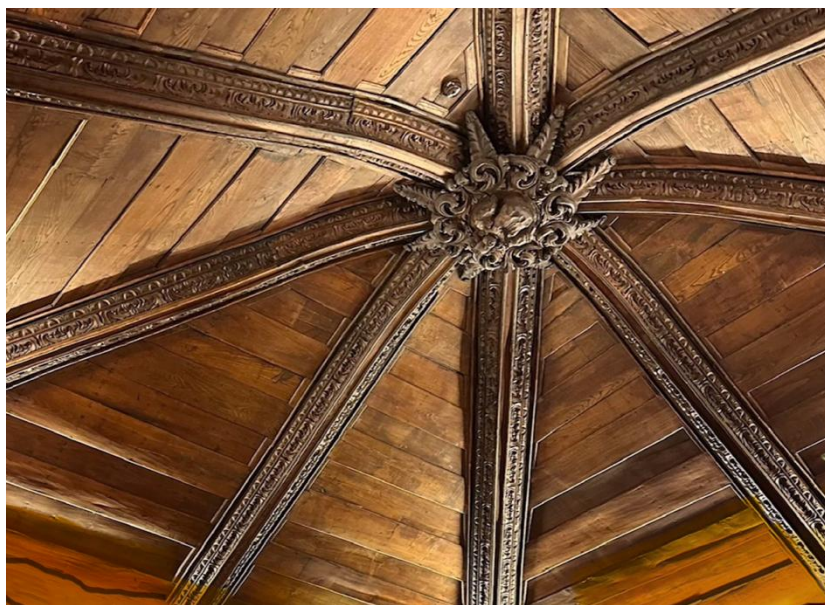
Honorable Mention
Portal Peek
Angie Nasrallah

Standard- Novice Competition Winners



2nd Place

Lello Library Stairs Porto
Joyce Harrison



3rd Place

Mateus Palace
Joyce Harrison



Honorable Mention

Winter Wonderland
Maryann Crow



Honorable Mention

Roundabout
Joy Rogers

CPS 2026 Monthly *Photo Challenge* Themes Schedule.

This is a ***FUN month-long challenge*** for all to participate and post their photos to a specific monthly club FB album during the months of January through November.

Marc Moskowitz, Photo Challenge Chair, will open every month's theme about a week early for posting to a FB album. As an example: Friday, 25 July, Marc provides all club members with a link to the August 2025 Photo Challenge album, *America the Beautiful*, for uploading from 25 July through the end of August.

No prizes and no awards; just your personal participation in a fun, helpful environment! If you have questions, contact Marc [here](#).

Monthly Photo Challenge (all month)	Photo Challenge Theme
2026	
January	Colors
February	A World in Black and White
March	Food
April	Tiny Things
May	Words Around Us
June	What is That? (Crop to an interesting portion of something we would normally recognize. Describe what the full photo is in the description when you upload the photo to the June FB album.)
July	Our Furry Friends
August	Planes, Trains, Buses, and Cars
September	Reflections
October	Parts and Pieces
November	Flowers
December	(no Photo Challenge; enjoy the holidays)

CPS 2026 Monthly Competition Themes Schedule.

Monday Deadline for Digital Submission	Monday Competition Evening	Competition Theme	
2026			
December 29	January 5*	General	
January 26	February 2	Metro Atlanta (Fulton, DeKalb, Cobb, Gwinnett, and Clayton counties)	
February 23	March 2	Juxtaposition	Prints-only
March 30	April 6	Shapes	
April 27	May 4	Unusual Perspective	
May 25	June 1	Wildlife and Water	Prints-only
July 6	July 13**	Patterns	
July 27	August 3	Something Old / Vintage	
September 7	September 14**	Bridges or Tunnels	Prints-only
September 28	October 5	Taken With a Smart Phone	
October 26	November 2	Bokeh / Beautiful Blur	
November 16	(closed) ***	Winning 2026 photos compete for a wild card 1st place in each of the three divisions. ***	

Unsure of what a theme means/looks like? Our Competition Chair, Laura Prescott, developed a reference document with definitions/pictures for every 2026 month [here](#).

* January's Competition is wide open! No limit on the theme (family-friendly) or the date when the photograph was taken. Wide open competition for your best photos ever!

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

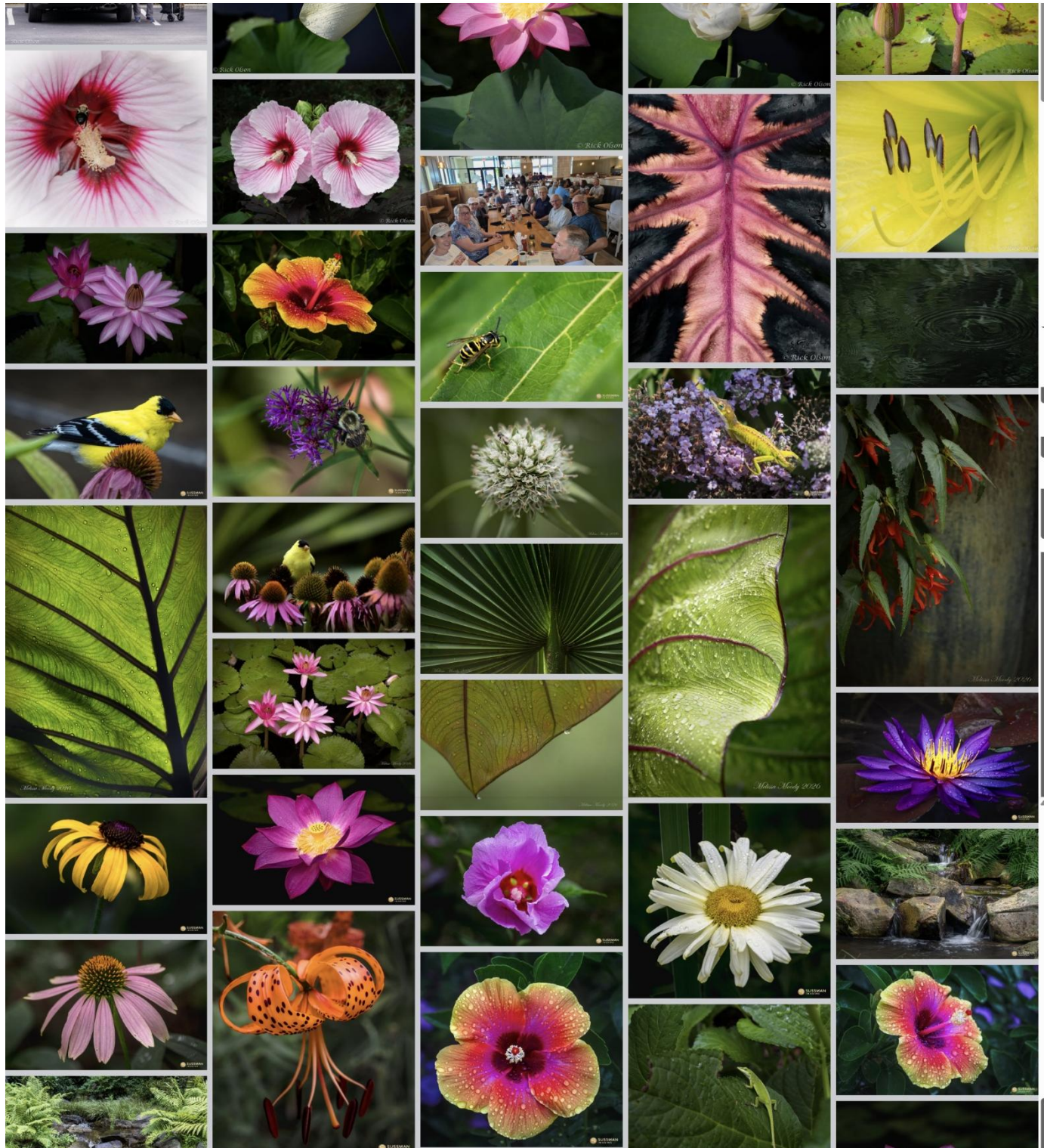
*** Club members who placed 2nd place through Honorable Mention during the year can compete for a wild-card first place in the *Best of the Year* competition in our Novice, Standard: Color, and Standard: Monochrome divisions. Winners will be announced at our December Christmas party.

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's *Black Box Theater* and personally view our members' print craftsmanship.

Note: No AI is allowed in any submitted digital or printed photo; it must be *all your work*.

Field Trip: Gainesville Branch of Atlanta Botanical Garden (1 of 2).

Field trip leader, **Rick Olson** and his hardy colleagues from CPS and NGPC had moments with rain and lightning during the field trip. Judging from the quality of the photos, “all’s wet but ended well”. View the full-sized photos [here](#).



Field Trip: Gainesville Branch of Atlanta Botanical Garden (2 of 2).

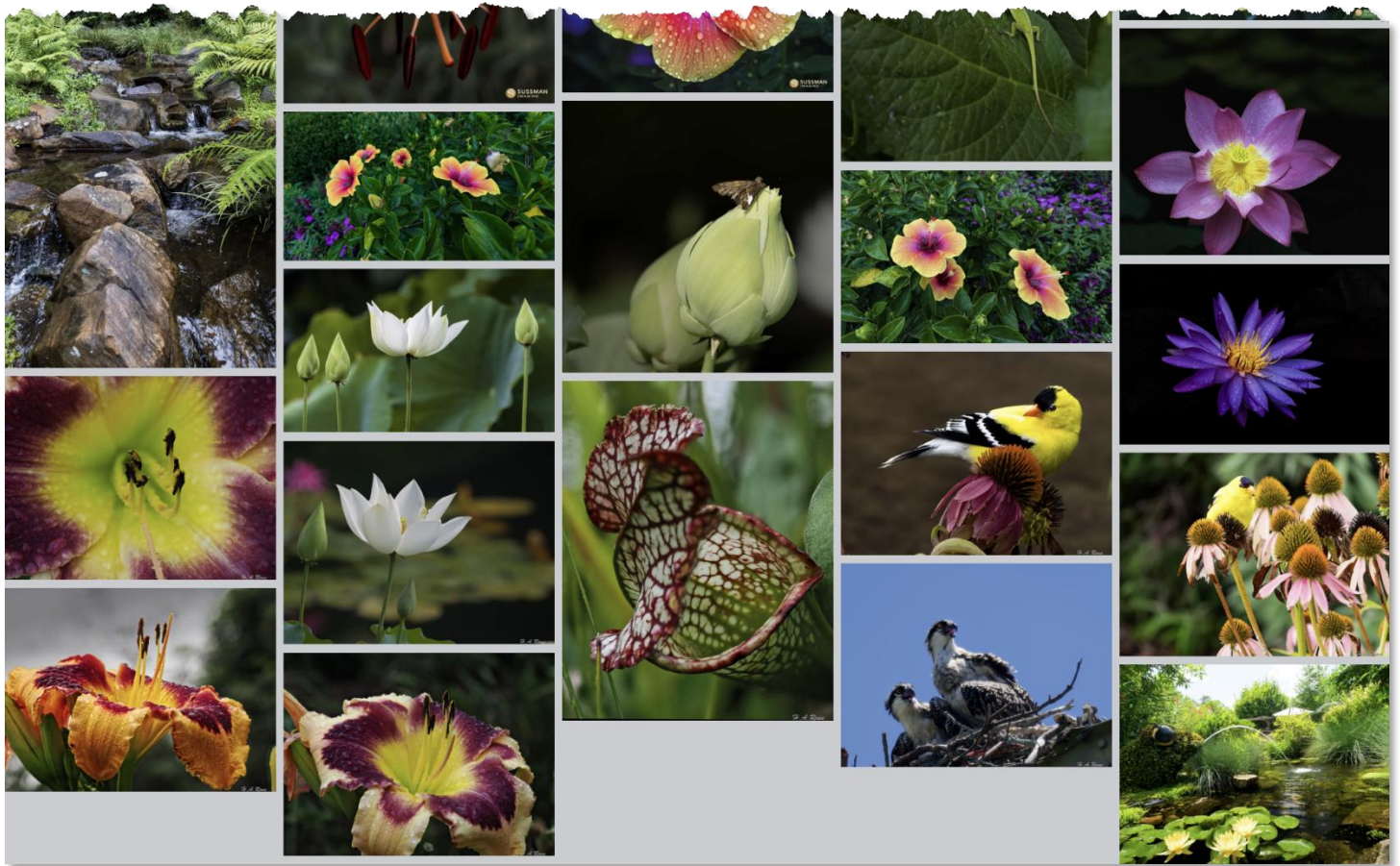


Photo Challenge: Furry Friends (1 of 3).

Another fun month of photos submitted by members and anyone else with a photo or two that met the month's challenge theme.

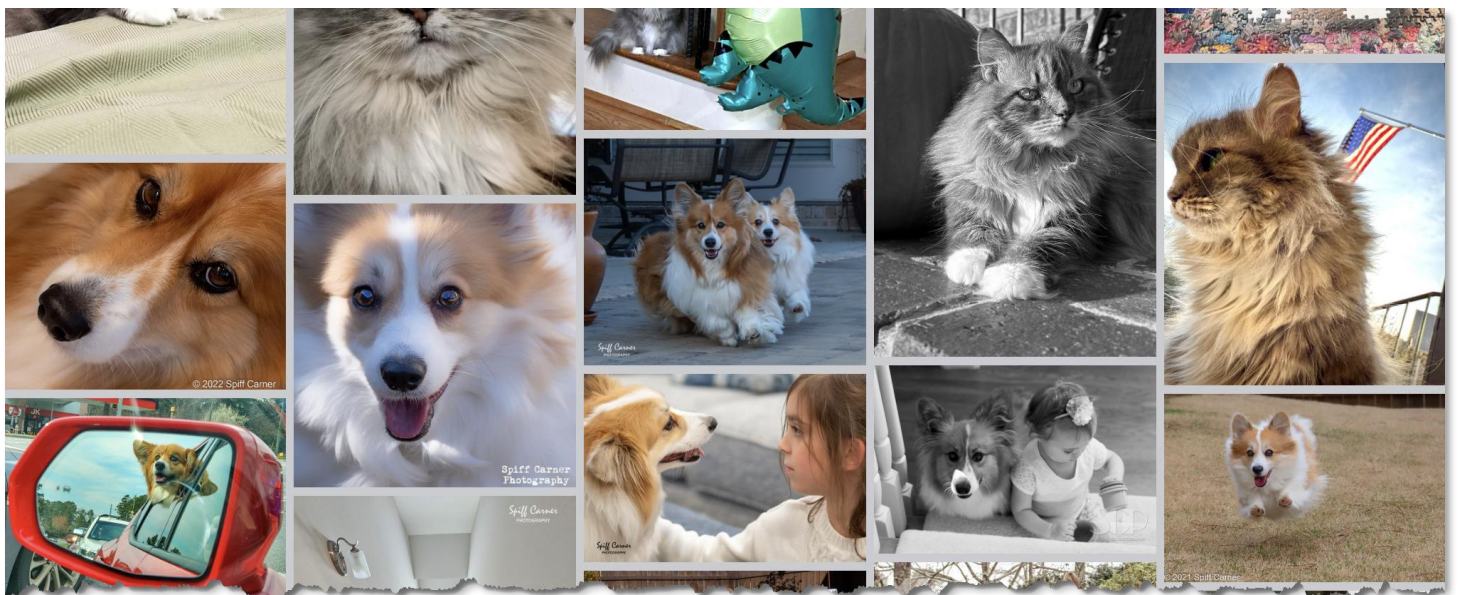
Pat Fahey turned up the submission beat by noting that:

“CPS members, according to the uploads for this month's **July** Photo Challenge, **Our Furry Friends**, we have two lonely dog owners and a zillion cat owners.

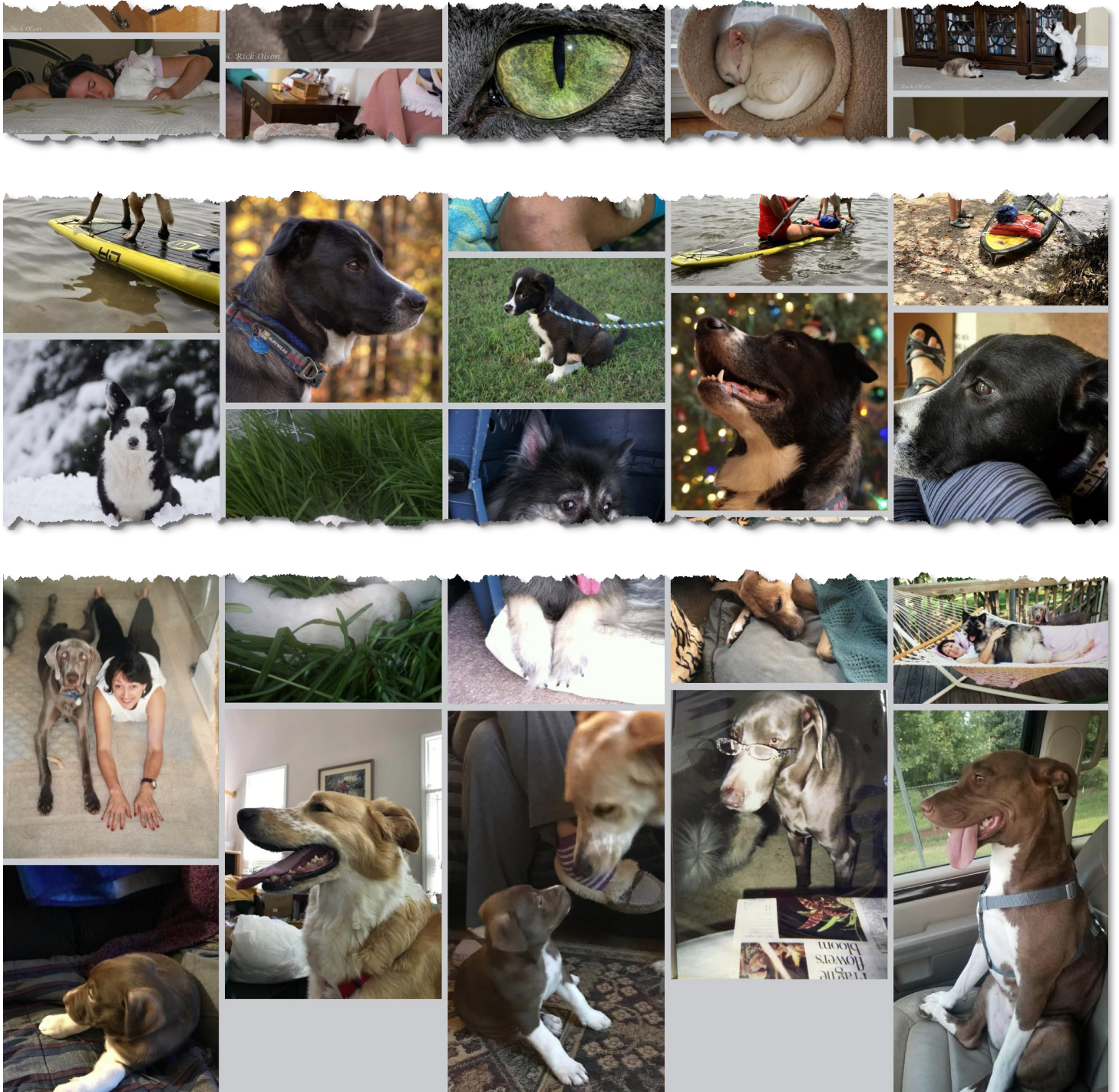
WE NEED TO SHOW THE WORLD THERE ARE MORE THAN TWO DOG OWNERS IN OUR CLUB! If you have a dog, rabbit, horse, elephant with a lot of hair, a fuzzy parrot, or any pet that is "almost furry", upload them photos!"

FYI, as of this Friday evening, Marc's *Furry Friends* Photo Challenge has the most uploads of any previous photo challenge. *The dog owners answered the call.*

Marc Moskowitz, Spiff Carner, Kimmy Jo, James Lambert, Rick Olson, Dee Dee Bonesteel, Mike Ramy, Rob Herman, Irmi Karpinski, Maura Davies, Joyce Harrison and Pat Fahey submitted photos for the challenge. View the full-sized photos [here](#).





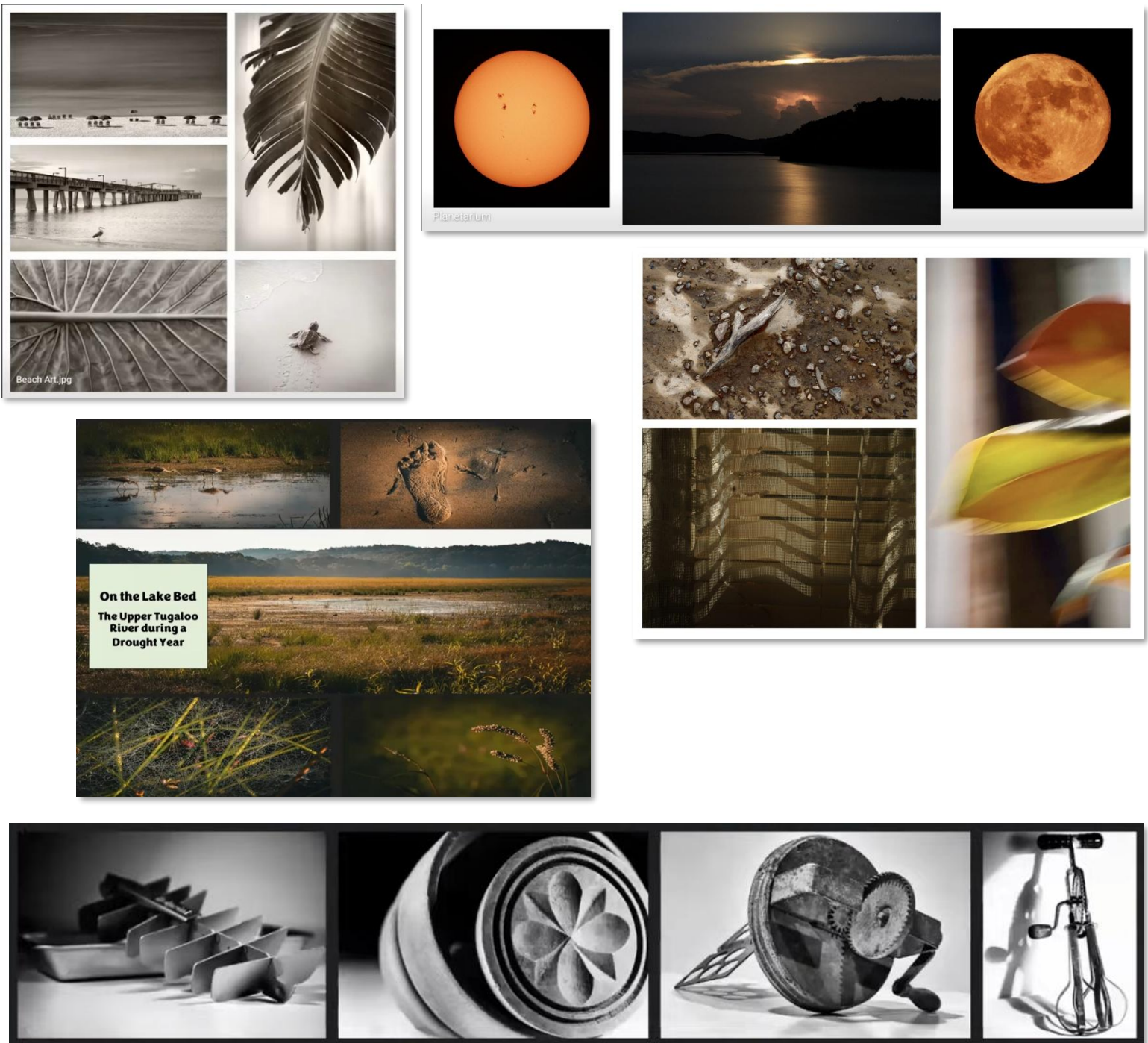


Learning Workshop: Creating Your Own Photo Series (1 of 2).

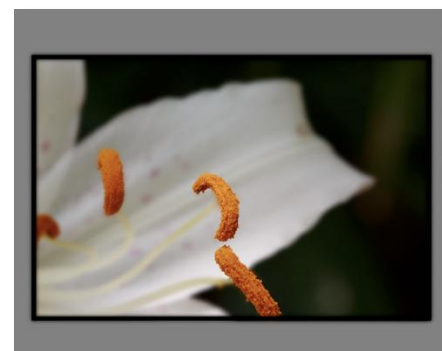
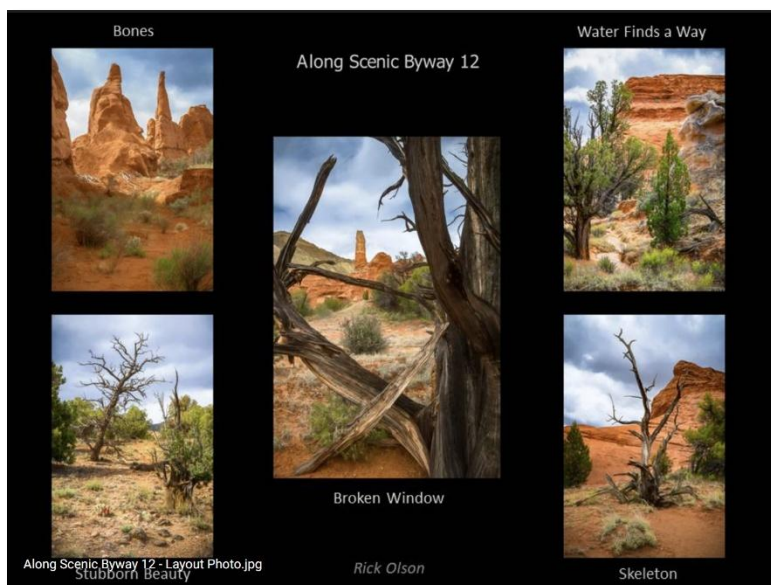


This month, we finalized our multiple months challenge, *Creating Your Own Photographic Series*, challenge by our long-time supporter of our club and mentor, **Robin Davis**. Within our club, **Michael Parvin** mentored club members via Zoom/in-person after Robin's presentation.

The evening's video [here](#) offers detailed feedback and encouragement for club members **Melissa Moody, Angie Nasrtallah, Umit Yuksel, Michael Parvin, Margaret Waage, Michael Barham, Jeff Whittingham, Rick Olson, Joy Rogers, and Pat Fahey.**



Learning Workshop: Creating Your Own Photo Series (2 of 2).



You can view the full-sized photos and layouts [here](#).

Member-2-Member Classifieds

(Open to all members and club supporters)

Upcoming Workshops with Club Member, David Batley.



FYI, David's next photo workshop at Smith-Gilbert Gardens will be in the Fall. The workshops are for photographers of all levels. You will have fun photographing the flowers and landscapes.

Upcoming Workshops with Club Member, Mark Chandler.



Another experienced instructor who is a long-time club member and our Exhibit and Social Media Chairs, **Mark Chandler**, will have classes in the near future.

Check back here next month for Mark's upcoming classes.

Stay In Touch With Robin Davis.



The Thinking Photographer with Robin Davis
June 19

We remember the sun of our childhood as a deeper yellow color, we drew it with a yellow crayon, but are we just seeing it in our mind's eye through a filter of nostalgia, and it was really the bright white starlight of our sun that we see today ?? Image title: Jekyll Island Starlight



Want to stay in touch with Robin Davis as she explores the world of fine art as well as the world around us?

Robin Davis, a fine arts photographer, wowed club members with her challenge to *Create a Photographic Series* (pages 24-25).

Robin is a gifted fine arts photographer who loves to share her insights, one of which is her video and audio presence on Patreon. More info [here](#).

Articles, Tips & Tricks, and Featured Website

Upcoming Virtual Summit 14-18 Sep.



Just announced, **Dave Cross**, an industry educator and founder of the Photoshop and Lightroom Virtual Summit series, is close to finalizing the agenda for the next five-day summit that will, for the first time, stress step-by-step workflows by the summit's instructors.

Like previous summits, there will be free (watch the video on the day of presentation and ~ the day after) and paid (lifetime presentation access and course materials) registration options. More information next month.

Capturing and Editing Black and White Photography.



Beginner and Intermediate. B&H Event Space recorded an interview with **Mahesh Thapa** that is filled with tips and suggestions. Mahesh noted that black and white doesn't have the benefit of color to make the photo memorable but relies on

composition, textures, harsh light, and filters are ways to impact your photos.

Mahesh spends time exploring different filters and reinforces the importance of composition and learning the best way to convert/edit in Lightroom Classic. There's a competent Q&A on filters at the end.

The video is 56:00 and can be viewed [here](#).

Editing Black and White Photos for Impact.



Intermediate. Jamie Mathlin's friendly English accent goes well with his patient editing to transform a color photo to the stunning B&W photo to the left. Jamie uses Lightroom Classic's masks quite a bit so if you're new to masks or need a refresh, this is a good video.

At the end, he saturates a bit more and then uses *Nik Silver*

Efex to choose a black and white look. **Note:** LrC's black and white presets are quite good and you don't need *Silver Efex* to pull off this dynamic look.

Enjoy the 32:00 to learn about masks and repeatable editing workflow [here](#).

Fine Art Black and White Processing.



Intermediate+. Pete Bisto, another English photographer, uses Lightroom Classic and Photoshop to achieve his fine art conversion.

Note: This is a more detailed- but very thorough- workflow to achieve his black and white conversion.

View his 26:55 video [here](#).

iPhone Camera and iOS Tips and Tricks.

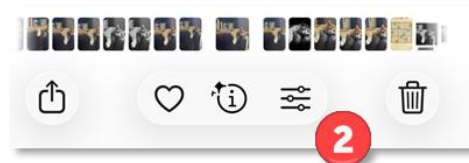
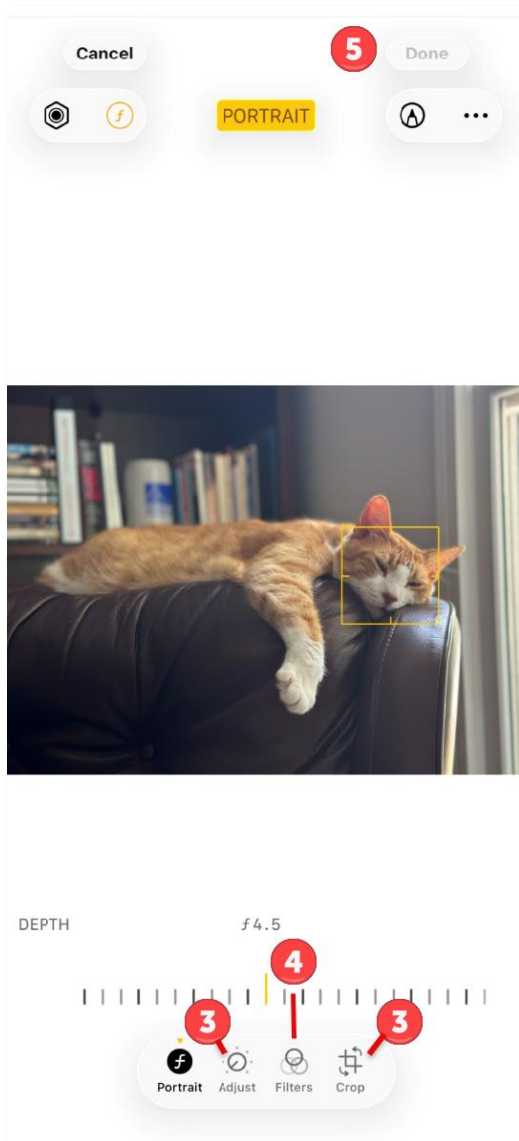
This month, our article focuses on a quick way to convert a photo, using the iPhone's *Photos* app, to a monochrome/black and white photo.

For fun, because the July Photo Challenge theme was *Furry Friends*, we'll use Alex.

Whether the photo was taken in macro, photo, portrait, or pano mode, it's easy to convert to monochrome. **Note:** The *Photos* app has three monochrome filter choices.

Convert a photo in the iPhone Photos app Library to monochrome.

1. From the *Photos* app **Library**, click to open a photo.
2. From the screen bottom, click the **three sliders** icon.
3. If needed, from the editing screen, use the **Crop** or **Adjust** icons.
4. With the editing complete, click the **Filters** icon and select **Monochrome**.
5. Click **Done**. **Note:** The monochrome photo is a copy!



Alex, the Cat

Featured Website: Inspirational Black and White Photography.

This month's focus shifts from our usual featured, photos-only website to a *Photo Masters* interview that explores black and white photography with a truly inspirational photographer.

The photographer, **Huibo Hou**, has a 19:58 video on her monochromatic work and discusses how she views photographing in black and white (she doesn't seem to do monochrome tints and leans heavily into landscapes).

The conversation moves quickly, her English is very good, and the photographs are gorgeous. I enjoyed her composition, leading lines, use of bright light, and the astounding tonal ranges.

Enjoy Huibo's interview [here](#). Watching this video, I feel like I'm at Cartersville's Booth Museum, immersed in a photo presentation I never want to end.



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 -

CPS editors: Pat Fahey and Margaret Waage