



The Contact Sheet

Newsletter of the Photographic Society of Chattanooga

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July 2024

Cover: Mary Jane Fish

Contest Winners



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The Decisive Moment in Wildlife Photography with David Akoubian

July 18, 2024 at 7:00 PM

Capturing the perfect wildlife image is the goal of anyone that goes out and spends any time with a camera chasing wildlife. Join professional nature photographer David Akoubian as he discusses techniques and offers tips for capturing what he refers to as "the Decisive Moment" in wildlife photography. Capturing images that help the viewer personally identify with the subject can be that decisive moment whether it is eye contact, or even the timing in an action photo. Join David as he shares settings, secrets, stories and images of some decisive moments in his wildlife photography.

During this presentation we will learn about how to prepare for, and implement, capturing the decisive moment with wildlife. We will talk about settings, gear, and preparing for "that" moment. We will also talk about wildlife photography in general, but focus on predicting behavior that will take an image to the next level.



David Akoubian

David has been a photographer since 1972 when his father presented him with his first camera, but his career in photography started in 1992. David learned his craft originally as a painter and from his father who shares his love of nature and photography. Early in his career he traveled with, learned from and taught beside some of the masters of nature photography including John Shaw, Art Wolfe, Galen Rowell, Bryan Peterson, Pat O'Hara, and Rod Planck. David has been teach-

ing photography since 1994 in the classroom and leading workshops around the United States. David presents and leads workshops at many of the country's top photographic conferences such as the Photographic Society of America Annual Conference, as well as many camera clubs across the United States.

David's clients include, but are not limited to: Coca Cola, PNC Bank, Tamron, Sirui, the Mountain Conservation Trust of Georgia, Lensbaby, The Nature Conservancy, Scholastic Books, and Gibbs Gardens. His photographs and articles have appeared in publications such as Nature Photographer, Audubon Magazine, Blue Ridge Country, Birder's World, Outdoor Photographer, Backpacker Magazine, and many local publications. His work has appeared in several feature books, calendars, as well as in instructional guides. David is a Tamron Image Master as well as being designated as a Sirui Professional.

David resides in the mountains of North Georgia with his wife Evelyn in an area they have named Bear Woods.

<https://www.bearwoodsphotography.com>



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Calendar of Events

July 11—7:00 pm PSC Board Meeting (Zoom)

July 18—6:00 pm Bootcamp and General Meeting

July 20—12:00 Noon-3:00 pm – How to use your new camera

July 27—Field Trip (see page 12)

August 8—7:00 pm PSC Board Meeting (Zoom)

August 16—6:00 pm – Bootcamp and General Meeting

August 22-23 — Turnover of Blackwells Gallery

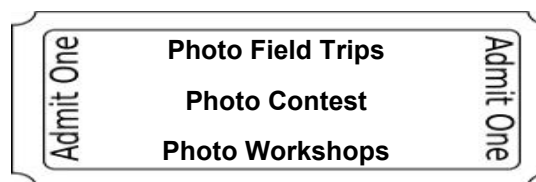
PSC Membership

Pay your membership online through PayPal

www.chattanooga.org

Or by check ~ Mail check (payable to PSC) to
PSC, PO Box 8886, Chattanooga 37414

STUDENTS (FULL TIME) \$15 SINGLE \$30



New Members and Visitors

PSC welcomes all visitors and new members. New members are invited to participate in all PSC events and visitors are encouraged to join PSC after three visits.

Visitors	New Members
Krys Alimurka	
Joe Horn	
Linda Pauls	

What's New on the Web?

July 2024

Bill Mueller

I guess the heat even stifled creativity for all of my favorite photographers. Not very many new tutorials came out last month. Here's one from the man behind Phlearn where Aaron shows us how to use the new lens blur tool in Lightroom Classic.

[\(858\) How to Use the New Lens Blur Tool in Lightroom Classic - YouTube](#)

Just to give you a little taste in what's coming to Photoshop, here Aaron shows us how to generate images from text in Photoshop Beta.

[\(858\) How to Generates Images from Text in Photoshop Beta - YouTube](#)

One last tutorial from Aaron this month where he shows us how to add realistic clouds to your images with Photoshop's Blend If.

[\(858\) How to Add Realistic Clouds with Photoshop's Blend If - YouTube](#)

Here's a neat trick from Colin Smith on using the adjustment brush with a feature I didn't even know was there.

[\(858\) HOW did I not know about this? - YouTube](#)

Photoshop's generative fill is a really powerful tool, but sometimes it doesn't do what you expect. Here Colin explains why Generative Fill doesn't always remove objects.

[Why Photoshop Generative Fill doesn't always remove objects \(youtube.com\)](#)

There was a update to Lightroom and Camera Raw a few weeks ago. Here Colin goes thru the new features.

[Adobe Camera RAW 16.3 New Features in Photoshop 2024 \(youtube.com\)](#)

We always get videos about new tools and how to use them, but here our friend from PiXimperfect tells us about 10 Photoshop features you must never use and gives us better options.

[10 Photoshop Features You Must NEVER Use! + Better Options \(youtube.com\)](#)

Here's one of the new sites I started following a few months ago. It's called Signature Edits. Here our host takes us through the Lightroom update and raises the question do we even need Photoshop anymore.

[Lifechanging Lightroom Update! GOODBYE PHOTOSHOP? \(youtube.com\)](#)

Getting away from post processing for a few minutes, here's Alister Been giving us a crash course in photographic composition.

[A CRASH COURSE in photographic COMPOSITION in under 10 MINUTES \(youtube.com\)](#)

Richard Smith turned me on to this next tutorial as one of the best Lightroom tutorials he's seen in a while. This appears on Christian Mohrle's YouTube Channel. The guy doing it has done a few videos there but I haven't been able to find out who he is. If anyone knows, please tell me. Here he teaches us how to use Lightroom Masks like a pro.

[Use LIGHTROOM MASKS like a PRO - 15 TIPS & TRICKS! \(youtube.com\)](#)



President's Message

I know I don't do many of these little messages. I've never been good at writing letters. My brain always goes faster than my pencil or my typewriter. I just want to remind you that you only have four more months of me left. I hope that you have been enjoying this group as much as I do. Hopefully we can continue growing and attracting more members and beginner photographers! We need to share what we know with others, because that's just what photographers and professional photographers do. We have been giving several beginner classes for free to any photographer who wants to take it. At the last one we had five people and we did get a new member out of that group. Our next one will be at the North River Civic Center on July 20 from 12 until 3 o'clock. Hopefully some of you will be able to come and help me and our other members teach these people how to use their camera. Sometimes it can be confusing and just hard finding the buttons. The right buttons, that is what most people need help with. If you would just like to come and brush up on your skills, that is ok too! We still need a couple of people to fill Board positions! If we want this organization to continue, we need you to participate. Actually, being a board member is fun and doesn't take up much of your time. Sometimes, assisting on a board can be rough. You may have to sit in your Lazyboy, at home, almost 45 minutes! Plus it's a great way to get to know members on a personal level. OK, getting too windy here, see you at our next meeting on July 18th!

Lin Prabish

President

2024 The Photographic Society of Chattanooga

To ensure that you receive communications about the club, please check publicity@chattanooga-photo.org as a safe email address. Also, check your "Spam" folder, particularly if you have EPB Fiber Optics as your email service, to ensure you're receiving emails intended for you from the club. Even though Karen uses Blind Copy to send out messages, several emails return undeliverable messages due to potential spam. We want you to stay informed of everything going on with the club, but there is only so much we can do.

PSC 2nd Quarter 2023 Contest Winners

Martin Fish

Here are the results of the 2024 Second Quarter Contest, which had the theme of Wildlife. There were 39 entries. After having some difficulty getting a judge and trying to get him logged into our Visual Pursuits website, I was able to get Bob Copeland to step in on short notice. I wish to thank him and all the people who entered images.

Here are the winners.

1st Place Do We Have to Share This Meal? Mary Jane Fish



2nd Place Eagle in Flight Larry Reneau



3rd Place

Shy Spoonbill

Richard Smith



Four Honorable Mentions

Costa Rica Hummer

Ed Laughlin



Majestic Eagle

Larry Reneau

Honorable Mentions Continued:

Crested Cara Cara Lovers Mary Jane Fish



Hawk Waiting on Its Prey

Dean Klim



The next contest will be the Third Quarter with a theme of Landscapes.

Landscape photography shows the spaces within the world. Landscape photographs typically capture the presence of nature but can also focus on human-made features or disturbances of landscapes. Landscapes are not restricted to land features but may include or be predominantly about sea or air. The contest will open for image upload at 12:30 AM on July 18 and will close at 11:30 PM on August 15. Winners will be announced at the Annual Picnic on September 19.

As always, PSC members can see the winners by going to the Visual Pursuits website at <https://psc.visualpursuits.com/>. The Home Page will have a slideshow of the winners.

Remaining 2024 Bootcamp Schedule

Patrick Thompson

Month	Speaker	Subject
July	Lin Prabish	Manual the Easy Way
August	Milton McLain	Taking and Processing Infrared Photos on Phone Cameras
September	No Bootcamp	Picnic
October	No Bootcamp	Open House
November	Bill Mueller	A Simplified System for Importing and Organizing Your Photos in Lightroom
December	No Bootcamp	Christmas Dinner

Manual the Easy Way

Lin Prabish

Manual the Easy Way Instructor Lin Blackwell-Prabish Using your camera, and on manual is so nice. Most of the time you get just what you're looking for, but sometimes we make it harder than it really is. Hopefully this short Bootcamp will teach you how easy manual actually is. Manual made easy, was my students favorite class at the college. We finished the class and they were out the door experimenting. They never realized how many choices they actually had. They never realized they had a convenient tool that was right in front of them. I made up that tool for them so they could carry it in their pocket and see the choices they had before they push that shutter button. I want to share with you this little gadget. It is not my invention, it's always been there. You just haven't used it. Hopefully this will help you understand how manual works and how your camera works. If you practice this a lot, after a while, you will see the settings you need easily. You still have a few decisions to make, but they are pretty obvious. Bring pencil and paper to write down what you want to see! We will need our imaginations for this Bootcamp, since we will be indoor.



July Bootcamp—July 18 at 6:00pm

Lin Prabish - Manual the Easy Way

BOOT CAMP

http://chattanooga-photo.org/Education/boot_camp/bootcamp

PSA Projected Image Interclub Contest

Milton Mclean

The final results are in for the 2023-2024 Season. In the final round our members had the following results,\

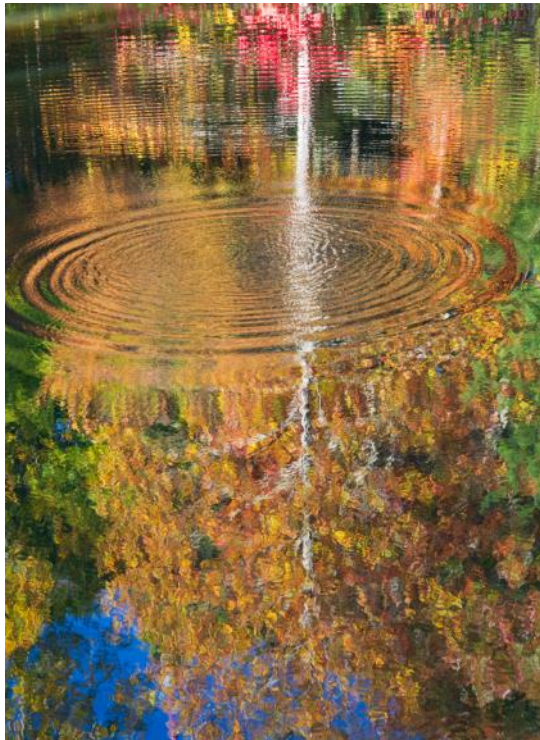
Score

Patricia Wilkins

Eagle in Flight 11

Laura Newbourne

Crimmons pond 3 10



Dean Klim Frog on lily Pad 8



Maury Griffith

Mont Saint Michel 8



Score

Mary Jane Fish

Horn reflections

7



Howard Kaplan

End of the Day

6



Thanks to all of you for your participation! Our club finished in 21st place out of 25 clubs in this group. The top three clubs in the group were clubs in India(1), Australia(2), and England(3). We are truly participating in a world-wide organization. Judging is done for each round by a different host club. For a slide show of merit and HM images, go to this link - <https://psa-photo.org/page/interclub-overview>.

You will receive an email soon on the details of the Pictorial Print Division Interclub Contest that we have been invited to participate in. If there is sufficient interest, the club can participate for 2024-2025. More to come.

Keep shooting,
Milton McLain

July Field Trip Info

Nichole Vild

Join us in exploring beautiful Enterprise South Nature Park on the 27th of July.

We will link-up at 8 am for breakfast at Maple Street Biscuit Company, located at 2114 Gunbarrel Road, Chattanooga. After breakfast, we will head to Enterprise South Nature Park at 190 Still Hollow Loop Road for a fun, nature-based field trip.

If you want to skip breakfast, we will link up at Parking Lot 8 at 9 am, accessible via the Still Hollow Loop road. The main roads are one-way in this park. Once through the main entrance, go straight through the intersection, and turn onto the first right, Still Hollow Loop.



Enterprise South Nature Park spans 2,800 acres of lush, wooded land, previously part of the Volunteer Army Ammunition Plant. Discover the rich history of this site, where remnants of concrete magazines used for storing explosives during World War II are preserved. We will walk along the nature trails adjacent to Lot 8, looking for wildlife, wildflowers, and tree scenes. This will be a great opportunity to practice small scenes, abstracts, or your tree photography!

Wear your walking shoes and bring water, it will likely be warm! There are four water fountains located in the park and four restrooms. This is a free event.

Please let Nichole know if you plan to attend or have any questions. (nicholevild@icloud.com)

Places and Gatherings that Might Interest Photographers

Mary Jane Fish

Dates	Event	Location	More Info
Every Friday Night May - August	NightFall	Miller Plaza in Chattanooga, TN	nightfallchattanooga.com
Every Saturday Night Memorial Day to Labor Day	River Front Nights	Ross's Landing	riverfrontnights.com
Now thru Sept 15, 2024	Alice's Wonderland Returns	Atlanta Botanical Garden	atlantabg.org
Now thru Oct 31, 2024	Glass in Flight	Huntsville Botanical Garden	https://hsvbg.org/visit/exhibits/
July 12-13, 2024	Bartow County Championship Rodeo	Cartersville, GA	https://phillipsrodeo.com/
August 17, 2024	Balloon Festival	Townsend, TN	https://gsmballoonfest.com/
Labor Day	Balloon Festival	Vonore, TN	https://monroelifeballoonfestival.com
November 9, 2024	NG3C Shootout	Rome, GA	More info to come (Save the Date)

June Field Trip Report

Mary Jane Fish

Saturday, June 22

On a very hot Saturday afternoon four members of PSC met in Resaca, GA to attend the Phillips Championship Rodeo. Those in attendance were Martin and Mary Jane Fish, Patrick Thompson and Roy Shackelford.

There are many things we needed to know before going to a rodeo. We will be better prepared the next time we attend one. First of all have a fast lens, especially as the night gets darker. Take a folding chair if you want to sit by the fence. Be prepared to climb the bleachers if your want a seat at the top. I was afraid to climb without a railing, even though several men offered to help me up. I ended sitting on the bottom bench but was able to go up to the fence to take some of the images.

The rodeo events started with a Grand March of all the participants. It was nice to see those who would be participating as they paraded around the field for all to see. Many of the cowboys and girls wore pink to show support for breast cancer research and treatment.

The crowd was happy to be there and see the events that were happening. First came the bronc riding then the tie-down rop-

ing. This seems to be a big family event as so many of



the audience also knew the participants. They did take a few breaks to let those on the field stop and take a breath before continuing on to the next event. They also introduced many of the family members who were in attendance.

At intermission they had the children on the field to take one shoe or boot off and put it in a pile in the center of the field, then move to the end of the field and then run to find their matching footwear. There was one little boy who could not find his boot and needed help which he willingly got.



Next came the steer wrestling, and ladies breakaway roping, ladies barrel racing, team roping and ending with the bull riding.



There's another rodeo on the 12th and 13th of July in Cartersville, GA. Check the list of possible events for more information.



*PSA provides education, information,
inspiration and opportunity
to all persons
interested in photography*

**Tucson Festival Registration and Hotel Reservation Links
Open Tuesday, April 1, 2024**

Photography Basics

Special Effects Filters Part 2 Star Filters

Mickey Rountree

One special effects filter that is difficult or at least very tedious to duplicate in Photoshop is the star filter. Star filters can add a ray or star burst effect to small specular highlights. They are clear glass etched with a cross hatched pattern, a hexagonal pattern or an octagonal pattern. This etching gives the filter its other name or cross screen filter. In practice the star filter can be overwhelming if there are a lot of lights in the image. Also the star filter's etched lines degrade the image and can cause a diffused or soft focus effect.

In the film days all we could do was put the filter on, shoot and hope for the best. Today I would have my camera securely on a tripod, shoot one shot with the filter and one without. That way you're covered whether you like the star effects or the plain shot. If you like the stars, but the rest of the image is too degraded, open the two shots as layers in Photoshop and mask everything but the stars in the filtered shot and you have the best of both; an overall sharp image, but starry highlights.

If there are only a few lights in an image, you can use a star brush in Photoshop to paint in the stars. Search for "Photoshop free star brushes" and you will find lots to choose from. Also at one time Topaz Labs had a plugin to add stars. It's no longer available or supported, but some of you may still have a copy.

When these articles are converted to PDF and sized for the newsletter, the resolution and quality of the images is seriously degraded. If you would like to read the article and see the images as I did, you can see this article on my website at this link.

<https://mickeyroutree.smugmug.com/Articles/Basic-Photography-Series/>

Four Point Star or cross screen Filter. This is a clear filter with a 90 degree crosshatch pattern engraved into it. This produces a four point star. In this close up it also produces some diffraction or prism effect, but generally it isn't noticeable in smaller points of light.



Six Point Star Filter. This filter has a hexagonal etching that produces a six point star. Again, in this close up it also produces some diffraction or prism effect, but generally it isn't noticeable in smaller points of light.



Variable cross screen filter. This has two filters on a rotating mount that allows you to vary the angle of the stars. Same setup and filter, but notice how the angle of the star changes from narrow to about 90 degrees in the following three images.





Rainbow 6 Filter (Before Clancy's book or movie) produces both a 6 point star and a heavy radial diffusion or prism effect.



Colortrix Radial Filter produces a halo of prism effects. Probably cool if used sparingly. Easily overused, but you gotta admit it's cool the first time you see it.



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Thanks to Shaw Industries for printing our monthly newsletter.

Monthly Meeting Information

Day: 3rd Thursday Each Month

Time: 6:00 PM, Boot Camp
6:30 PM, Registration & Social
7:00 PM, Meeting & Program

**St. John United Methodist Church
CAC**

3921 Murray Hills Drive

Directions: Exit Hwy 153 onto Hwy 58 North. Turn left at the first traffic light onto Murray Hills Drive. Entrance to the church is on the right. PSC will meet in the CAC (gymnasium) ground level entrance immediately in front of you. Parking surrounds the church; however other entrances will normally be locked.

The Photographic Society of Chattanooga holds club membership in the Photographic Society of America, ArtsBuild Chattanooga, Camera Club Council of Tennessee (3CT), and the North Georgia Camera Club Council (NG3C).



ARTS Build

A 501(c)(3) Organization

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