



Charter Oak FOCUS Jan 2023

Reminder: In general, Meetings scheduled on the 2nd Monday of the month will be live at our new location (see [directions on the website: www.charteroakphoto.org](http://www.charteroakphoto.org)). All other meetings will be virtual until further notice.

JANUARY WORKSHOP (LIVE)

Exploring Lightroom's New Masking Adjustments presented by Steve Silk

We are pleased to kick off 2023 with a workshop presentation of the new masking adjustments available in Lightroom (and Photoshop Camera Raw). The last two big updates for Lightroom included easy-to-use masking tools to provide a wide range of control over every aspect of your image. From enhancing the sky to brightening the whites of the eyes in a portrait, which were once complicated, time-consuming techniques are now literally as easy as pushing a button. We'll review the use of these game-changing tools and show how you can use them to enhance photos no matter what kinds of picture you like to take. Note: although the presentation will be from Lightroom, the new tools are also available in Camera Raw in Photoshop, so Photoshop users will also find this workshop beneficial.

Join us in person at the First Baptist Church of West Hartford (go North Main St.) on January 9.

If inclement weather forces the presentation to be changed to Zoom, a Mailchimp notification will be sent before 3PM that day.

JANUARY COMPETITION (VIRTUAL)

Digital Competition Judging is scheduled for Monday, January 16.

The deadline for submissions is January 12. The Submission Page is already opened. This month's Specified Topic is "N is for -----"

Monthly competitions are open to all, and we encourage all members, regardless of photographic experience, to participate. This month's Specified Topic provides an interesting challenge.

COMPETITIONS: SPECIAL TOPICS FOR 2002-23 SEASON

February: LOOKING UP

March: SLOW SHUTTER

April: BACKLIGHTING/SIDELIGHTING

May: Judging for Annual Awards

CLUB PUBLICITY: A Message from Gert Perry

- There is a need for someone to fill the role of Publicity Chairperson. If you are interested, please email me or call. I have plenty of information regarding this.

It is important to get word out about the club's activities and explore ways to interest even more people in joining Charter Oak.

Gert Perry Gertp@att.net 860-597-1559

FUTURE WORKSHOPS

Looking ahead to February, our scheduled workshop will be "Indoor Photography Setups" presented by Meredith Harris and Cindy Gosselin.

JANUARY PROGRAM (VIRTUAL: WEBINAR *)

January 23, 2023

Lisa Langell - The New Nature Photography: Trends for the Future

Lisa Langell has a different view of nature photography. Her talk focuses on the difference between classic nature photography and nature photography that addresses nature photography as a decorative element. Lisa will explain how to produce unique photos that buyers will want to hang in their homes. The talk will address artistic decorative trends.

As photographers, we have classically been taught one master set of “rules” that govern how we photograph wildlife and nature. Those rules are largely oriented toward the requirements for publication in magazines and calendars. They are dictated by how an audience responds best in those genres. Most competitions have geared their requirements toward the same rules of composition, style and quality. But did you know there are other rules, too? What if your image isn’t going in a calendar, but instead will have its permanent place in a home, office, website banner, etc.? In these cases, the rules we learned may not apply!



Photographer Lisa Langell::Vulture Couture

Lisa Langell (Continued)

Many do not realize that there are more than one set of rules for nature photography depending on where it will “live”! We’re missing out on a whole world of photography by not considering these alternative rules. Lisa will present alternatives for thinking, capturing the shot, composing, processing and “homing” our work, including:

- Identify the difference between “Classic Nature Photography” and alternative (new) options for composing, capturing, processing and producing your work.
- Spot the right photographic compositions for modern decorative art.
- Identify and apply photographic techniques that elevates your work from traditional to art-worthy for today’s interior trends
- Break out of the traditional mode and find new ideas, inspiration and outlets.
- Think flexibly about your photography and the rules around it.
- Incorporate mixed-media and “found objects” into your creations.
- Apply simple – but impactful – post processing techniques.
- Discover images in your archives that, with a few tweaks, can be translated into the New Nature Photography.

Lisa is a full-time, award-winning photographer whose work has appeared in numerous prestigious publications, galleries and more. Most recently, she was published on the front cover and wrote a feature article in [Outdoor Photographer](#) magazine. She currently sits on the Board of Directors for the [North American Nature Photography Association](#). She is also an ambassador for [Tamron](#) and [FotoPro](#). Lisa’s work is located on her web page, <https://www.langellphotography.com/>

This live, interactive and fun webinar will help you to better understand how to differentiate photography markets and shoot for them in order to create modern nature photography.

- **Please register for the webinar.**

https://uso6web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_JIzwXOsIQf-BmwjjCgiWgw

FEBRUARY PROGRAM: PREVIEW

Here's a sneak preview of our February Program. Our presenter will be Dawn Wilson, a professional and award-winning nature photographer and writer specializing in wildlife of high latitudes and high altitudes of the Rocky Mountains and Alaska. A resident of Estes Park, Colo., just outside of Rocky Mountain National Park, she focuses on the animals and destinations of this rugged region through tours in the park, writing for regional and national magazines, including Outdoor Photographer, Alaska, Colorado Life, Motor-Home, and many others, and co-hosting The Nature Photographer Podcast through Wild and Exposed.

Description: Bird photography can be one of the most challenging types of photos to successfully capture. Birds like bald eagles and great blue herons fly slower and are larger, making them great subjects to start with for birds in flight, but there are techniques for capturing the smaller birds as well – either in flight or finding the right perch location. This presentation will cover bird behavior for better photos, settings for improving your success rate for birds in flight, ideas for creative bird photos, and much more.

Dawn will be sponsored by our good friends at Hunt's Photo. This Program will be on Zoom.

CHARTER OAK ON INSTAGRAM

REMINDER: Steve Silk is looking for content from members in order to continue refreshing the club's presentation on our Instagram page. A number of members have developed personal Instagram pages following Steve's excellent Instagram tutorial workshops, so why not send your best to the club's page? Since Instagram is primarily a cellphone medium, vertical 4X5 format images work best, but horizontals, squares and all aspect ratios can be used. You can send your best images (with titles and/or brief text) to Steve at steve.silk@yahoo.com. Title your email "Instafeed".

COPS is on Instagram as charteroakphotographic. Install the app to follow COPS photos and videos. Steve is on Instagram as Steve_silk.

https://www.instagram.com/invites/contact/?i=1goxpo6mty842&utm_content=k84of3l

Instagram provides COPS with a great platform for attracting and recruiting new members.

DIGITAL IMAGE SCOREBOARD

AS OF NOV. 30, 2022

2022 Nov. Digital Imaging Scoreboard				
Name	Total # of Images Using the Highest 2 Scoring Images	Total Points Using the Highest 2 Scoring Images	1st Prize	Mention
Masters				
Cindy Gosselin	6	165.5	6	2
Steve Silk	6	160.5		4
Paula Fink	6	160.0	4	1
Pam Hastings	6	159.5	2	3
Frank Amazeen	6	159.5	2	5
Michael Miller	6	157.5	2	4
Salon				
Mark Teitlbaum	6	158.0	5	
Tom Griswold	6	157.5		5
Stan Tetrault	6	152.5	3	1
Jim Oliphant	6	152.0	4	1
Mark Fox	6	151.0	2	1
Linda Hintz	6	150.0	1	1
Lee Wilcox	6	150.0		1
Emery Thomas	6	149.5	1	1
Alex Logoyke	6	148.5		3
Marci James	6	147.5	1	
David Hintz	6	147.0		2
Frank James	6	146.0		1
Chris Thomas	4	101.0		1
Don Hight 4 91.5	4	91.5		
Laura Reinwald	1	23.0		

NEW WEBSITE AND COMPETITION HOSTING

Our website has resided at Hostmonster.com since 2009. On learning of their steep price increases, Steve Potashner and Stan Tetrault investigated alternate hosting companies and chose Siteocity.com, on the basis of the services that the club required and a much lower price. On 11/29/2022, Steve created a hosting account at Siteocity and moved the COPS website there. Since then, the site has undergone extensive testing and was functioning normally by 12/17/2022. Also, Mike Fernandez helped to re-establish automated exchanges of competition images and info between the website and the Judge software. Steve and Stan believe that the website is ready to support normal club activities in 2023. We terminated the website hosting plan at Hostmonster on 12/28/2022.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

Possible closings due to weather (or other conditions)

- If a meeting closing is needed, a Mailchimp will go out to the Membership midafternoon.
- A notice will be posted on the Eyewitness News (wfsb.com.). It will only be on their site and not on TV or other sources.