

# THE GRAND CANYON PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB

NEWSLETTER  
VOLUME 10, ISSUE 7 | JULY 2010

## Area Photographer to Speak on the Night Sky

The Grand Canyon Photography Club will present speaker Curt Weinhold this month. Curt's presentation, entitled "Available Darkness," will focus on photographing the night sky without the aid of a telescope. The program will begin at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, July 13th at the Gmeiner Art & Cultural Center in Wellsboro.

"We will be discussing how to create star and moon images when the sky is cooperating with a clear atmosphere," explained Curt. "Preferred cameras are SLRs, either film or digital. A fast lens is desired and a tripod essential."

The Tuesday talk will be followed by an outing on Friday, July 16 at Cherry Springs Dark Sky Park. Here we will apply what we learned at the Tuesday meeting. Members should meet at 8:30 p.m. at the parking lot opposite the astronomy field—this is the east side of Rt. 44. There is no charge for this event. We'll cancel if the sky is mostly overcast.

Curt photographs a variety of subjects. He started by studying photography courtesy of a VA program at age 27 and since then has spent much of his time looking through a camera viewfinder.

He is a juried artisan connected with the PaWilds program and has Artisan Trail gallery displays in Wellsboro and Emporium. Senior portraits and weddings round out the year.



Curt has spoken previously at Grand Canyon club meetings. His photo credits include Outside Magazine, PA Magazine, National Geographic Adventure, Washington Post, NY Times, and many local publications.



©Curt Weinhold

To see more of Curt's photography, visit [www.curtweinhold.com](http://www.curtweinhold.com)



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For more information, please contact:

Suzan Richar

Phone: 814-435-8128

E-mail: [president@gcphotoclub.org](mailto:president@gcphotoclub.org)

## GCPC President's Message

Can you believe this year is half over? It's been busy, and we have had interesting programs and have learned a lot from the critiques. We have much more to look forward to in the second half. We have Curt Weinhold and the Dark Skies this month and Tony Sweet next month.

Many of us went out to Ann's and had a good time. She had some wonderful setups. It was a relaxing time to shoot and visit with members and guests. Thanks, Ann, for being a gracious hostess.

The regional photography show is in August, and we will be reviewing the entries as part of our August meeting. I think it is nice that a photo exhibit will be hung when Tony Sweet will be here.

Does everyone have their entries ready?

I have exciting news, I am buying a house within walking distance of the Gmeiner and will be moving to Wellsbor before the end of the year.

Keep Shooting.

*Suzan Richar*  
*President*



©Suzan Richar

## Minutes of June 8, 2010

Because of the nature of the June program, there were no minutes. Remember to sign up for the special program:



Grand Canyon Photography Club  
presents noted Photographer

# Tony Sweet

Saturday August 7, 2010

Gmeiner Art & Cultural Center  
Wellsboro PA

### Photography Seminar

9:00 AM until 4:00 PM

Lunch will be provided

*Fine Art Portfolio*

*Elements of Image Design*

*The Digital Edge*

*Creative Techniques*

\$100 includes Evening Program

Limited to 50 participants

### Evening Program

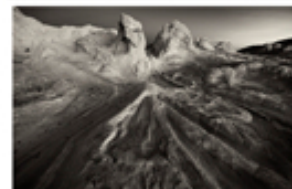
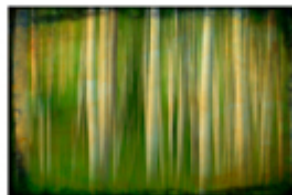
7:00 PM until ???

*Recent Work 2010*

\$5 for those not attending Day Seminar

Make checks payable to *Grand Canyon Photography Club*  
with *Tony Sweet* in the memo

Mail to Gary Thompson  
285 Owen Hollow Road  
Big Flats NY 14814



# Creative Photo Self-Assignments

written by Julie Waterhouse

article taken from [www.picturecorrect.com](http://www.picturecorrect.com)

This article will provide you with 10 photography self-assignments that you can use to get your own creative juices flowing. They are designed to help you grow in skill as a well-rounded photographer while helping you build your portfolio at the same time. Many of these projects are best executed over a period of time rather than in a single session.

- 1. The Park Bench.** Take your camera and a tripod to a park, and find a busy park bench. Set yourself up some distance away with a long lens aimed at the bench and pre-focused. Settle in, and for the next few hours take images at fixed time intervals, say every ten minutes. This is really an exercise in time lapse photography. I think the resulting images would make a fun photo essay. The setting stays the same but the subjects change at random.
- 2. Evolution of Construction.** Find a nearby construction site and take a picture every day. If you choose the same vantage point each time, you'll end up with a series of images that show the building in progressive stages of completion.
- 3. Through the Seasons.** This exercise is similar to number two but is best done in a less urban environment and over a longer period of time. Find a landscape that you can shoot in spring, summer, autumn, and winter. This works especially well if you live in a place that receives snow in winter and where the leaves on the trees turn color in the fall.
- 4. Self Portrait.** The concept of this is simple: take a picture of yourself every day. It helps to use a tripod and shutter release rather than limiting yourself by trying to shoot with the camera at arm's length. You are the most patient subject you could ever work with, so use this to your advantage. Get creative, overact, dress up, and use props. You decide how you want to show yourself to the world! If you do an internet search on this topic, you'll find related Flickr and Twitter groups where you can share your images.
- 5. A Day in the Life of...** This is a great project to document a particular occupation. For example, you could take photographs of a nurse at work to show all the various aspects of his or her job. It may take you more than one day of shooting to capture a representative set of images.
- 6. Get to Know Your Neighborhood.** So often we never really take a good look at our own neighborhood. Make it a point to walk around and shoot ten images of the area where you live. Do this once a month, or even once a week, if you really get inspired.
- 7. Color Challenge.** This is a fun challenge for an urban environment. Take your camera downtown and give yourself a few hours to take pictures. Choose a color (or for added challenge, have a friend pick the color for you), and shoot only objects of that color. By the end of the session, you'll be surprised how that color jumps out at you! When you're finished, it's great to take your best images and assemble them into a collage or mosaic. This is something that can be done in Adobe Photoshop.
- 8. A Collection of "Somethings."** Whenever you're out, carry your camera and be on the lookout for whatever "something" you choose. It could be feet, garbage cans, vegetables that look like faces, bicycles – you name it! Get creative, and pick a theme that you don't usually see in pictures.
- 9. Pet's Eye View.** Pretend that you are your pet. How would you see the world if you were a dog? A hamster? Shoot a series of images from the perspective of your pet's eye level.
- 10. After Dark.** We don't always think to take our cameras out at night. Try shooting after dark. If you're in the country, you can shoot moonlight or star trails. In the city, you can shoot vehicles' tail-light trails or downtown buildings. Wherever you are, you can try light-painting – using a long exposure, and moving a flashlight over parts of the scene.

## Fun with Fireworks

Though I've never been a warm-weather person, I find myself looking forward to July because of the opportunity to photograph fireworks. There's just something about the bursts of color against the blue of twilight or dark of night that appeals to me. No two bursts are the same so there's always the chance for something new.

To capture the beauty of these explosions of light and color, I recommend a tripod and a cable release. This allows the camera to remain steady during the long exposures. Set your camera to "Bulb" if you have the option. Otherwise shoot in Manual mode (with manual exposure) and set the shutter for about 4 seconds. I also use a low ISO to keep digital noise at a minimum. Bring a small flashlight along to help you see your camera settings in the dark. My typical settings for firework photography are ISO 100 at f/11. The multiple burst image to the right was captured with these settings.



Once you've got the photographs, it's fun to play in your image-editing software. The image to the left is a composite of two photographs taken a few minutes apart. Using Photoshop, I was able to combine them together and change the blend mode to make the photo appear more natural. The image with the moon is another melding

in Photoshop. The moon was out that night, but not in the same portion of the sky as the fireworks. I took several shots of the moon alone, and then put one together with the burst. Again, I changed the blend mode for a more natural look.



Finally, just for fun, I combined a firework photo with an image from last year's county fair. While the two events were totally separate, I liked the feel of the final composite, and though the image doesn't reflect the "reality" of that night at the fair, I think it captures a realistic possibility.

The idea is to have fun, experiment, and expand your artistic vision—behind the lens and in the digital dark room.

Happy Independence Day.

*Mia*



REFRESHMENTS  
THIS MONTH:  
  
WOLFRAM JOBST  
KARIN MEYER

## Treasurer's Report for June 2010

Beginning Balance	<b>\$5,026.08</b>
Cash IN	
Tony Sweet wrkshp.	\$100.00
	\$00.00
	\$00.00
Cash OUT	
Flyers for T. Sweet wrkshp.	\$25.44
	\$00.00
Ending Balance	<b>\$5,100.64</b>

*Respectfully Submitted,  
Gary Thompson, Treasurer*

## Mystery Macro

Last month's Mystery Macro (image below, left) is a tree (full image below, right). David Ralph and Maggie Holmes guessed the mystery. Check out this month's macro and send your guesses to MiaLisa57@epix.net.

I invite you to send me your macros (the more mysterious the better) for publication using the format for the digital critique.



©Ann Kamzelski



## GCPC Calendar of Events

**Now:** Yvonne Lloyd, Mini-Solo Show, The Native Bagel, Central Avenue, Wellsboro. (Suzan's paintings will also be on display.)

**Now:** Open, Mini-Solo Show, Ten West Espresso Company, 23 N. Main Street, Mansfield. *There are openings for 2010 at both The Native Bagel and Ten West Espresso. If you are interested in showing your work at either place, please contact Bruce Dart.*

**July 13, 2010:** (7 p.m., 2nd Tuesday) Monthly meeting of Grand Canyon Photo Club, Gmeiner Center: *Night Sky* presented by Curt Weinhold. Theme: *Photos from the Photoshoot at Ann's.*

**July 16, 2010:** Evening outing at Cherry Springs. Meet at 8:30 p.m., weather permitting. More information will be available at the meeting on the 13th.

**August 1-29, 2010:** Regional Juried Photography Exhibit. Photographers living within 150 mile radius of Wellsboro may enter up to two photographs. Contact the director for details and brochure at 570-724-1917.

**August 7, 2010:** Special program and workshop with Tony Sweet, Gmeiner Center., 9a.m. to 12 p.m., 1 p.m to 4 p.m. with an additional program from

7p.m. to 9 p.m. (see page 3)

**August 10, 2010:** (7 p.m., 2nd Tuesday) Monthly meeting of Grand Canyon Photo Club, Gmeiner Center: A group discussion on the Regional Photography Exhibit. Theme: *Night Shots.*

**September 14, 2010:** (7 p.m., 2nd Tuesday) Monthly meeting of Grand Canyon Photo Club, Gmeiner Center: *Alaskan Adventure* presented by Tina Tolins. Theme: *Hot.*

**October 12, 2010:** (7 p.m., 2nd Tuesday) Monthly meeting of Grand Canyon Photo Club, Gmeiner Center: *Architectural Photography* presented by Gary Thompson. Theme: *Past its Prime.*

**November 9, 2010:** (7 p.m., 2nd Tuesday) Monthly meeting of Grand Canyon Photo Club, Gmeiner Center: *How Far Have We Come?* presented by Sam & Nancy McCaughey. Theme: *Fall Foliage.*

**December 14, 2010:** (7 p.m., 2nd Tuesday) Monthly meeting of Grand Canyon Photo Club, Gmeiner Center: *Holiday Party.* Theme: *No Critique.*



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60 West Avenue  
Wellsboro, PA 16901

JULY 13TH  
MEETING:

AVAILABLE DARKNESS  
PRESENTED BY  
CURT WEINHOLD

CRITIQUE:  
PHOTOS FROM ANN'S  
OR OTHER  
SUMMER IMAGES

SEND TO:  
CRITIQUE@  
GCPHOTOCLUB.  
ORG  
BY  
7/6/10

## Check Out These Sites:

A little something for everyone by Julie Waterhouse.

<http://www.ultimate-photo-tips.com/>

Some really lovely images here, especially the landscape and flora galleries.

<http://www.ascenicworld.com/>

Some inspirational shots taken in low light.

<http://www.smashingmagazine.com/2008/11/09/60-beautiful-examples-of-night-photography-2/>

