



VOLUME 18, ISSUE 1 ~ JANUARY 2019

INSIDE:

President's Message pg. 2
Banner Photo pg. 4
Minutes/Treasurer pg. 5
Calendar/Mystery Macro pg. 6
Members' Photos pgs. 7, 8



©Mia Lisa Anderson

GCPC “Soaring” at the January Meeting

Linda Stager will take us on an adventure in pursuit of the bald eagle at the January 8, 2019 meeting of the Grand Canyon Photography Club. Linda, a GCPC member, will inform members where eagles can be seen locally and, most importantly, teach some tips and give advice on how to photograph them. The program will be held at the Gmeiner Art & Cultural Center in Wellsboro, PA beginning at 7 p.m.

Once almost extinct, this regal raptor has made a comeback and is doing well all across the country. In fact, Tioga County is one of the best places to see bald eagles, especially in the winter.

“Wildlife photography is a wonderful specialty for the photographer,” said Linda, “and with reasonably affordable equipment, anyone can capture beautiful photographs. It does take stamina, however, and it takes a certain set of techniques, all of which are readily available to learn.”

Linda goes on to say that “shutter speed is one of the most important things to make sure you get right when photographing eagles and depth of field (or lack thereof) can be the photographer’s nemesis. Blown highlights are also especially troublesome with the eagle’s dark body and bright white head.”

Linda will cover these technical topics in her presentation. She will also speak about the importance of learning your subject’s normal activities. The more you know about the general habits of eagles (or any wildlife) the better prepared you’ll be for photographing them.



©Linda Stager

Of course, all photographers are encouraged to practice ethical wildlife photography, whether in pursuit of the bald eagle or any wildlife. Linda will share the “rules” for doing no harm to the animals you set out to photograph.



©Linda Stager

Since retiring from the Tioga County Human Service Department in May 2013, Linda has focused on enjoying the outdoors and photographing it at every opportunity. In 2015, she wrote the *Pine Creek Rail Trail Guidebook*, which includes many of her photographs. She is also the creator of the 2016 *Historical Lights of Wellsboro* poster, on sale at local retailers. Along the way, Linda has learned a lot about photography techniques and, even more importantly, she has found many friends who share her passion for adventure and photography. You can visit Linda’s Facebook page to see more of her photography.

Join us for a night of learning about “America’s bird” and how to capture it with your camera.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It is allegedly winter, but rains that have been regularly watering us since mid-July, and the relentless mud with only intermittent snow and cold, have so far made classic winter snow shots difficult to find. One lesson we have learned is that we should look for photo opportunities which are outside our usual zone of expectation.

A total lunar eclipse is coming up on the night of January 20-21, 2019. It will be visible in all of North America, even in Florida and Arizona for the benefit of our snowbird members. In this case, the Earth will come between the sun and the moon in just the right way so that the shadow of our planet is cast entirely across the moon. Now, all we northerners need is for persistent winter clouds to part the sky for a few hours as done to the Red Sea a long time ago.

The last total lunar eclipse here was in September 2015. At that time, some members got out and gave it try. Some of those came up with spectacularly successful results.

The total lunar eclipse will take place on 21 January 2019 UTC. For observers in the Americas, for local dates, the eclipse will take place between the evening of Sunday, January 20 and the early morning hours of Monday, January 21, 2019. One can plug any location into this link to get the exact time and sequence of events. The site notes that since 2000, this date has been cloudy 92% of the time.

<https://www.timeanddate.com/eclipse/map/2019-january-21>

Here are some other links for checking out the weather a day or two in advance of the eclipse.

Cherry Springs State Park, Clear Sky Chart:

<http://www.cleardarksky.com/c/ChrSprPkPAkey.html>

Clear Sky Chart for Mansfield:

<http://www.cleardarksky.com/c/MnsfldPAkey.html?1>

The Eileen Collins Observatory, at Corning Community College:

<http://www.cleardarksky.com/c/EilColOBNYkey.html?1>

Here are some random links on how to photograph a lunar eclipse. One does not need professional equipment to get some very good images. A tripod, though, is essential in my opinion.

<https://photographylife.com/landscapes/how-to-photograph-a-lunar-eclipse>

<https://www.bhphotovideo.com/explora/photography/tips-and-solutions/22-tips-for-photographing-a-lunar-eclipse>

<https://www.outdoorphotographer.com/tips-techniques/nature-landscapes/photographing-lunar-eclipse/>

For your smart phone, Photopills is a wonderful astro information resource.

<https://www.photopills.com/blog/update-eclipses>

I find that spot metering off the moon itself yields the best exposure, whereas matrix or averaging meters tend to blow out the moon entirely. One can check exposure by looking at the histogram and adjusting or bracketing the exposure. For a fixed tripod and telephoto lens, any exposure longer than perhaps a couple of seconds will lead to blur. (See the photopills app.) Very wide angle shots might go to 30 seconds or more. Checking the image on your camera's rear screen will tell you. A bright moon is indeed very bright, but, during an eclipse, as the brightness dims a lot with more shadow, requiring longer exposures, higher ISOs, or wider apertures, will be needed.

continued on page 3

continued from page 2

Telephoto lenses yield the best image of the moon itself. The choice of lens is usually to use your longest, the longer the lens, the better. Crop sensor cameras, hopefully with a lot of pixels, have an advantage over full frame DSLRs since the apparent focal length of the lens is longer and there may be more pixels on the moon itself. A tripod is essential.

Taking multiple images with a wider angle or normal lens is an alternative technique, compositing the images later, either in camera if allowed, or in software. Even some point and shoots will be able to do this. Again, a tripod or other solid support is needed.

Focusing on the moon is actually not easy. Old manual lenses had a mechanical stop at infinity which was great. Autofocus lenses almost never have a hard infinity stop so one has to focus on the moon or some other very distant object. Using Live view can help. Once the moon is in focus, I suggest leaving the focus locked in place by turning off autofocus, even not using it at all, so as not to risk having to do it all over again for each shot. Once focus is good, the best practice, as shown by both Curt Weinhold and Bob Stoffregen, is to also use a piece of gaffer tape on the lens to prevent any movement of the focus at all.

One never knows what one will discover if vigilant. Alan Meloy, a UK amateur plane spotter, outside of Sheffield, England, saw a shiny thing high in the sky outside of his kitchen window. He grabbed his Canon EOS 7D Mark II, and a 100-400mm lens, with 1.4x III tele extender, and ran outside. What he captured was an image of Air Force One trying to secretly fly President Trump to Iraq to see troops on the day after Christmas. The pic and the story were on the Internet before the President landed in Iraq. The plane's windows were blacked out. So, the President had no chance of seeing his picture being taken.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/12/28/world/europe/air-force-one-trump-iraq.html>

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/79734127@N07/32597991928/in/photostream/>

David Ralph

**January Meeting
Refreshments:**

**Snacks: Nancy Bickham
Beverages: Linda Stager**



©David Ralph
Glendalough,
Ireland, the Round
Tower, circa 900



The Grand Canyon
Photography Club

2019 Officers:

President: David Ralph

Vice President: Diane Cobourn

Treasurer: Gary Thompson

Recording Secretary: Paul Bozzo

Corresponding Secretary:
Sharon Connolly

Directors:

2018-2019:

Nancy Bickham, Linda Stager

2019-2020:

Mia Anderson, Med Barton

**Committee
Chairpersons:**

Newsletter: Bruce Dart

Membership: Gary Thompson

Exhibits: Bruce Dart

Website: Mia Lisa Anderson

Publicity: Lonny Frost

For more information, please
contact:

David Ralph -

E-mail: president@gcphotoclub.org

About The Banner Photo

"My friend Heather makes the most beautiful (and delicious) cookies, and I buy some of the snowflake ones to photograph every December," Mia explained. "I have really come to enjoy food and beverage photography over the last three years. I'm not much of a cook or baker so when I get the opportunity to get some great looking food item, I try to make it look good in a photograph as well."

"I had photographed the snowflakes cookies before with milk and in front of the Christmas tree so this time I tried something a little different. I went with hot chocolate and a brown background. I received a holiday mug as a gift so I used that as a prop along with the canister for the hot chocolate."



©Mia Lisa Anderson "Holiday Cookies"



Minutes of the December 9, 2018 GCPC Meeting

President David Ralph opened our Annual Christmas Party at 7:03 on a night filled with a few snowflakes, new gear, delicious treats, and photographs! A total of 23 members and guests were present when Rob Colley began his presentation of new cameras and lenses available at Hoyer's Photo in Williamsport. As always, Rob was informative and entertaining. Thanks, Rob.

Each member could submit up to five images for a slide show of their best work in 2018. There were many oohs and aahs quietly escaping into the darkened room as the images were cast on our large screen. Some of us were speechless as we were mesmerized by the beauty captured by our members. Thanks to the photographers for the uplifting exhibition – and the motivation to continue our striving for excellence.

We hope to continue our successes as a club and as individuals in 2019. Membership dues of \$20 a person are currently due. If you would like to donate more for the financial health of the club, you may.

Respectfully submitted,
Paul Bozzo

Treasurer's Report	
Beginning Balance	\$935.99
Cash IN	
2019 Dues	\$125.00
Cash OUT	
Bank Fee	\$3.00
HolidayParty Supplies	\$21.53
Ending Balance	\$1,036.46
Respectfully Submitted	
Gary Thompson, Treasurer	

2019 Dues Are Now Being Accepted

Individual: \$20.00

Family: \$35.00

Please bring them to the January meeting or mail them to:

GCPC Treasurer

Gary Thompson
285 Owen Hollow Road
Big Flats, NY 14814



Member Favorite ©Bruce Dart



GCPC 2019 Calendar of Events

Meetings are at 7 p.m. on the 2nd Tuesday of every month
at the Gmeiner Art & Cultural Center unless otherwise noted.

Mini-Solo Shows at the Native Bagel, Central Avenue, Wellsboro:

January - Diane Cobourn

February - Paul Bozzo

The Warehouse Theatre: Various Members

Paul Bozzo, Linda Stager, Medford Barton, Bernadette Chiarmonte Brown

Please contact Bruce Dart at bdphoto@ptd.net
if you are interested in displaying your photos at
the Native Bagel or if you have images suitable
for display at the Warehouse Gallery.

Programs and Themes:

January 8: Photographing Eagles presented by Linda Stager.
Critique: Winter

February 12: DVD Program-Clyde Butcher. Critique: Still Life

March 12: Wildlife Photography presented by Medford Barton.
Critique: Animals/Critters

April 9: Macro Program TBD. Critique: Intentional Camera Movement

May 14: James Montanus TBD. Critique: Macro

June 11: Annual outing at Ann Kamzelski's. No Critique

July 9: Walkabout in Wellsboro. Critique: Images from Ann's

August 13: Hiking Outing led by Paul Bozzo. No Critique

September 10: Black & White Photography presented by Bruce Dart.
Critique: Landscape/Nature from hike

October 8: Using Drones presented by Linda Stager & Gary Thompson.
Critique: Black & White/Monotone

November 12: Lightroom and Travelogue presented by Ken Meyer.
Critique: Halloween

December 10: Annual holiday party & slideshow of member images

What is this? Send your
guess to bdphoto@ptd.net

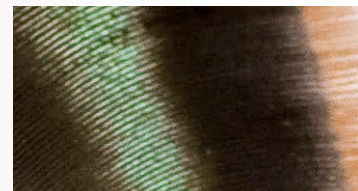
Mystery Macro

How observant are you?



©Jan Keck

No Guesses:
Turkey Feather



©Judith Giddings



©Judith Giddings



A Sampling of 2018 Member Favorites



©Paul Bozzo



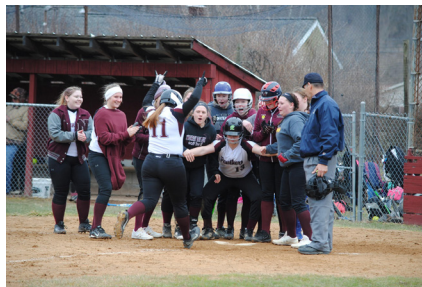
©Mia Lisa Anderson



©Bob Bair



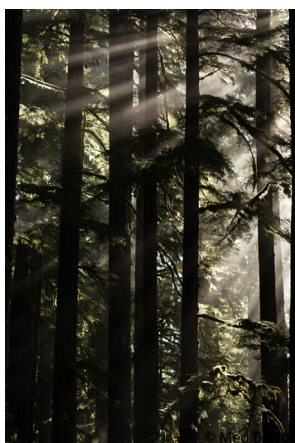
©Bill Wolfe



©Gerry Bailey



©Diane Cobourn



©Medford Barton



©Nancy Bickham



©Russ Dodson

More Member Favorites



©Ann Kamzelski



©Jan Keck



©Stefanie Matteson



©Karin Meyer



©Ken Meyer



©Linda Stager



©Bob Stoffregen



©Gary Thompson