Ethics in Photography

GCPC Vice-President Linda Stager will lead an interactive discussion at the April 11th Grand Canyon Photography Club meeting titled, "Doing What's Right as a Photographer—but Will Someone Tell Me What is Right?" The presentation will begin at 7 p.m. at the Gmeiner Art & Cultural Center in Wellsboro, PA after a short business meeting.

Who wants to be a better photographer? We all do, but these days, it's hard to know even what the definition of photographer is...let alone, what a photographer should or shouldn't be doing when he/she picks up the camera.



It's a real wild place to be for all of us these days. Photography is evolving. The world about us is evolving.



The discussion will look at the topic of ethical photography and will explore what that means. What is ethical? Who or what is a photographer? Is there a right or wrong answer to the question of what is right?

Linda will also help club members look at some practical scenarios that so many of us are a part of. We'll look at behaviors while out in the field and explore how members feel about those behaviors. We'll look at a Photographers' Code of Ethics and explore what it says about how we should behave. We'll look at editing questions and explore how far is too far. What about "rules"? Whose rules are they,

anyway? And we'll take a look at the future of our hobby-businesses. What's coming? Are we ready?

It will be a light look at our hobby from all perspectives. Several members will help Linda flush out some

of the key topics of the night...from legalities and privacy issues to protection and well-being topics.

Linda is a member of the Professional Photographers of America and has achieved "Sony Pro" photographer status. She is an award-winning author-photographer who lives in Wellsboro and is a juried pro-level artisan of the PA Wilds. To see more of her work, follow her on Facebook: "Linda Stager" or "The Historic Lights of Wellsboro-the Photography of Linda Stager"



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

So, you are a new member. You're wondering if you belong here. Maybe you are feeling overwhelmed? It's possible that some of what you see and hear doesn't make sense? How, really, can you improve your photography?

First, I'd like to make a few general remarks. If you enjoy, and especially love, shooting images with a camera, you belong here. We can all be overwhelmed when presented with new information. (You know, you can't start at the top of any endeavor. Hopefully you have the desire to work your way up!) As you gain new knowledge, things will begin to come together. (You can't learn it all in one session.) Yes, it is possible to improve your skills at shooting images. You can also learn how to improve an image by working on it with computer programs. (We like to call that concept the digital darkroom.)

Second, I'd like to encourage you to become a life-long learner. You will pick-up knowledge as you attend our meetings. You will find members to whom you can take your questions. (Most, if not all, of our members are willing to share their knowledge.) You will pick up some strategies to make interesting compositions. It's quite possible that you will enjoy working to improve your images with photo programs.

Third, I'd like to share a bit of my journey. After I was in the club (I joined in 2007) for a few years, I attended a group activity. Many members had DSLRs and tripods – and I had my little point and shoot camera. One member said something like, "Wow, you get your images with that!?! Amazing." Your equipment isn't the "end-all" in making good photos. A good eye, some flair, a willingness and a joy in taking hundreds of photos, experience in judging your images, and researching what interests you – that's the "end-all" in being on your way to improving your photos. Better equipment might come. Like I say, "I've learned much from the photo club. Mostly I've learned how to buy expensive stuff." I depend on my light-weight tripod to do my landscape photography. I now have my third DSLR – each one better than the one before. I've bought four programs that I use to manipulate my images. (I'm still learning new skills and techniques.)

Maybe you've heard of the idea of perseverance!

Paul



Images this page ©Paul Bozzo



GCPC Meeting Minutes March 14, 2023

Vice President Linda Stager called the meeting to order. Linda introduced herself to the audience. She asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the January meeting. Will Slotter so motioned and Bob Bair seconded. Motion carried. Linda then asked for the minutes from the February meeting to be approved as they appeared in the newsletter. Bob Bair so motioned. Dennis Stager seconded. Motion approved. Three guests were present and Linda introduced them to the group.

Linda asked Mia Lisa Anderson as head of the Exhibition Committee to go over the guidelines that the committee established for the upcoming GCPC Member show in June. Mia read them and told members she would send a copy to Sharon Connolly to be sent out to all members via email.

Linda reminded members about the club's ongoing exhibit at the Native Bagel. She encouraged members to participate alone or with another member or two. Interested members should contact Bruce Dart to get on the exhibit list.

Linda also gave information on a heated muff that she used to keep her hands warm while out photographing in the winter. She also let everyone know that the eagle's nest in Ulster is off limits for now and gave information on 2 photography contests.

Linda then introduced the evening's panelists for the topic of preparing for exhibit: Mia Lisa Anderson, Bob Bair, Tana Carpenter, and Gary Thompson.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mia Lisa Anderson Acting Recording Secretary

April Refreshments:

Snack: Marsha Price Beverages: Heather Hiller





The Grand Canyon Photography Club

2023 Officers:

President: Paul Bozzo

Vice President: Linda Stager

Treasurer: Gary Thompson

Recording Secretary: Vacant

Corresponding Secretary: Sharon Connolly

Directors:

2022-2023: Bob Bair, Tana Carpenter

2023-2024:

Mia Anderson, David Ralph

Committee Chairpersons:

Newsletter: Mia Lisa Anderson

Membership: Gary Thompson

Exhibits: Bruce Dart

Website: Mia Lisa Anderson

Publicity: Linda Stager For more information, please

contact:

Paul Bozzo - E-mail: president@gcphotoclub.org

Club Reminders Critique Submissions

Please send critique submissions (or other images you'd like to submit for the newsletter) to Mia at:

mialisa1957@gmail.com. Follow the guidelines we have always used, i.e. 1024 or 2048 pixels on the long side and one submission per critique. Remember to put your name in the file name, e.g. anderson_tulips.

Treasurer's Report-March		
Beginning Balance	\$2,672.80	
Cash IN		
Dues	\$120.00	
Cash OUT		
Bank Fee	\$3.00	
Ending Balance	\$2,789.80	
	Respectfully Submitted	
	Gary Thompson, Treasurer	



©Mia Lisa Anderson



On the Pursuit of a Masterpiece

By Bruce Dart, Cr. Photog.

Famed photographer Ansel Adams once challenged photographers to create twelve "Masterpiece" images in a year, one per month. Difficult but attainable if one works toward it.

What is a masterpiece? What is art? What is creativity? What is a pursuit of excellence? Answers to these subjective questions are as varied as the individual makers. In the recent Lenswork Magazine article Guy Tal in his creativity column also suggests a personal experience of the photographer as a key.

An image that has a deeper personal meaning in addition to technical excellence, probes the issue on a different level. Reaching the goal (of 12 per year) may take more than a year...perhaps even a lifetime of work. For me, several images stand out and each has a story behind it. Adams, by the way, kept meticulous notes and tells many anecdotes with each of his images.

"Morning Oats" is attributable to a dear friend and longtime mentor the late Bill Clements. We vacationed together for about a decade, each pushing the other to create a meaningful work. Bill nailed an image of sea oats at sunset that I tried for years to duplicate. My image was sunrise not sunset and perhaps that is partly why it took so long. I tried among the every morning routine of photos at sunrise on the beach and finally nailed it.



"Sunny Side Up" is one that resulted from an assignment

to do a photo of an ordinary household item. I chose "eggs," starting with a dozen eggs in an ornate but clear bowl. Interesting but something special was missing. Eventually I wanted to add the color of the egg next to the bowl on black plexiglass. Keeping the egg from running on the floor was a challenge!

I've had numerous occasions to photograph in the picturesque town of Wellsboro with OK results

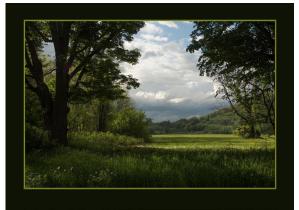
but not the great results I was hoping to do. One photo of the town of "The Courthouse was a perfect candidate for a recently acquired texture overlay. Another favorite image was created.

Photographing "close to home" not only provides nearby subjects but affords an opportunity to study in depth and create something special. One of Tioga County's earliest settlers was a man named Gad Lamb and his family, landing in the former village of Lambs Creek, now a recreation



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All images this article ©Bruce Dart

area. He came to this area around 200 years ago. The area is nearby and a favorite for me. Evening sunset lit up the valley and amazing clouds framed between the familiar trees became special. I knew I had something as soon as I clicked the shutter!

Of course not every personal masterpiece ranks among the great masters....nor does it have to. This is the personal level of achievement. It has been nice to have these recognized by my peers in professional competition, but that was not and is not the ultimate goal. Creating meaningful work is what every artist aspires to and that trumps many other prerequisites. Axioms and adages often have a moment of epiphany when we realize more fully their import.

The words of Lt. David Farragut, who later became one of the few Five Star Admirals of the Fleet, are good to keep in mind... "Damn the torpedoes, full speed ahead!"



©Mia Lisa Anderson



GCPC 2023 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:

Programs and Themes:

April 2023: Photography Ethics presented by Linda Stager. Critique:

April 2023: Bruce Dart

Reflections

May 2023: Paul Bozzo

May 2023: Intro to Editing. Critique: Spring

June 2023: Brad Adams

June 2023: Scavenger Hunt. No critique

July 2023: Tana Carpenter

July 2023: *Outing*. No critique

The Warehouse Theater: Various Members

August 2023: Outing/Picnic. No critique

December 2023: Holiday Party. No critique

September 2023: Thoughts on Composition presented by Med Barton.

Critique: Outing Photo

October 2023: Still Life Photography presented by Mia Lisa Anderson.

Critique: Good Composition

November 2023: Architectural Photography. Critique: Still Life

Please contact Bruce Dart at <u>bdphoto@ptd.net</u> if you are interested in displaying your photos at the Native Bagel or if you have images suitable

for display at the Warehouse Gallery.

Mystery Macro

How observant are you?

What is this? Send your guess to:
mialisa1957@gmail.
com

Mystery Macro images kindly supplied by Mia



2 Correct Guesses by Maggie Holmes & Emily Kreider Guitar









Winter Critique Images







©Bob Bair



©Bob Clarson



©Paul Bozzo



©Tana Carpenter



©Diane Cobourn



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Winter Critique Images



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