The Grand Canyon Photography Club

VOLUME 25, ISSUE 1~ JANUARY 2026

Why We Do What We Do

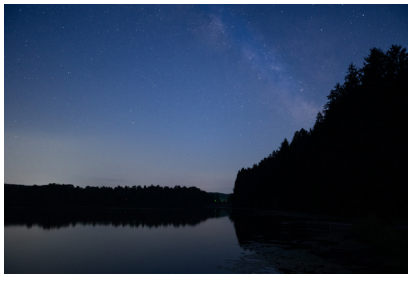
The Grand Canyon Photography will begin the new year with a group discussion on photography. The program will be held on Tuesday, January 13, 2026 at the Gmeiner Art & Cultural Center in Wellsboro, PA. and begin at 7 p.m. after a short business meeting.

The January 2025 meeting featured a group discussion on everyone's favorite photography gear, including demonstrations of the equipment. Due in large part to the success of that program, it was decided to hold another group discussion. This time around the topic will be why we take photographs and a bit about each individual's photographic journey: when did we start? who inspires us? what is our favorite photographic genre? etc.

Last year members benefitted from discovering new equipment, and the hope is to learn more from each other this year.

The Grand Canyon Photography Club was established in 2001 by Art & Christine Heiny and is still going strong after all these years. The first meeting was held in January of that year and meetings continue to be held the second Tuesday of every month at the Gmeiner Art & Cultural Center in Wellsboro, PA. Meetings typically run from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Annual dues are $20/year per individual, $35 per family. Individuals may attend two meetings before they are asked to join.

Each month a program is given on some aspect of photography. Some past program topics: Smart Phone Photography, Architechtural Photography, Composition, Lighting, Photography Ethics, Black and White, Portraiture, Post Processing and more. Programs are often presented by knowledgeable club members. Special presenters have included Wayne Palmer, Curt Weinhold, Ed Heaton, Tony Sweet, Art Becker, John Levandoski, and Jamie Konarski Davidson, to name a few. After a refreshment break, member images on a pre-determined topic are critiqued.



Member Favorites
©Mia Lisa Anderson

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As we begin a new year together, I'm excited about the opportunities ahead and grateful to be part of such a creative and welcoming photography club. This year, one of my personal goals is to explore more of the wide world of photography by trying new styles, learning new techniques, and printing a photo for a show. I'm especially looking forward to learning from the many talented members of our club, whose creativity and willingness to share make this group so special.

I truly enjoyed the photographs that were shared at our holiday party. Seeing the variety of subjects, styles, and personal perspectives was inspiring and a great reminder of the skill and passion within our membership. Thank you to everyone who contributed and helped make the evening such a success.

Looking ahead, I'm enthusiastic about our upcoming programs for the new year. We have a diverse lineup that offers something for everyone. Our programs will provide opportunities for storytelling, technical discussions, exploring creative challenges, and best of all allow us to get together with fellow photographers. I'm confident these programs will spark new ideas, encourage growth, and strengthen our sense of community. January's program is a round table discussion where we will all have time to share about our photography journeys and why we take photos!

Thank you for being part of this club and for sharing your vision through photography. I look forward to another year of learning, creativity, and connection.

Here's to a great year ahead!

2026 Program Schedule

January: Why I Take Photos – Group Discussion

February: Winter Light – Linda

March: Editing Panel: What You Use & Your Favorites – Featuring Mia, Gary, and Casey

April: Family Grouping for Portraits – Karen M.

May: Social Media – Linda

June: Nature Photography Agenda – Brad

July: Macro Photography – Missy

August: Black and White – Gary

September: Picnic & Scavenger Hunt – At Brad's

October: Outside Speaker (TBA)

November: Gear Panel (TBA)

December: Holiday Party & Member Slideshow

Missy

Member Favorites
©Missy Volino

GCPC December 9, 2025 Meeting Minutes

TThe meeting was called to order by President Mia Lisa Anderson. Mia asked for a motion to approve the November minutes. Jesse Kendall motioned to approve the minutes, and Karen Mitcheltree seconded the motion. All approved.

Gary presented the treasurer's report. Beginning balance: $2715.22, Income: $60.00 Expenses: bank fee: $3.00, Ending balance: $2,772.22 Motion to approve Treasurer's Report made by Missy Volino, seconded by Diane, and unanimously approved.

Mia announced that the sign-up sheet for refreshments for next year's meetings is over on the table where the tags are kept. Mia also reminded everyone that we would be hosting the juried photography show in June and that she was awaiting details.

Susan and Jim are coordinating the exhibits at the venues. They are in the process of being introduced to the various contacts with some help from Linda.

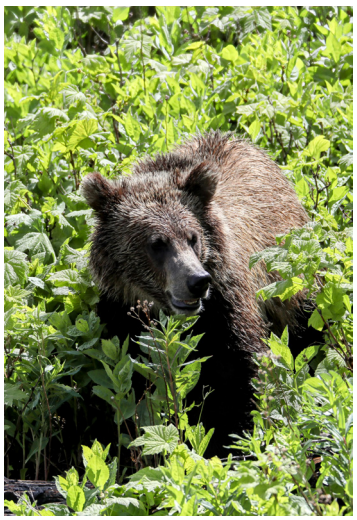
January meeting photo critique is Holiday Pictures, and the program is a group discussion of photography, why you love it, and anything else you would like to share about your photography journey.

Linda Stager and members of the club thanked Mia for being President.

Motion to adjourn the business portion of the meeting at 7:08 PM made by Jesse, seconded by Dennis.

Meeting adjourned

Respectfully Submitted,
Missy Volino,
Vice President



Member Favorites©Brad Adams

ONE MINUTE MUSINGS
THOUGHTS ABOUT PHOTOGRAPHY
–Linda Stager

New Year, New Perspective

I'm thinking about this, this month….

It's always nice to get new gear. I hope you got what you wanted for Christmas.

But now that Christmas is over, and the new year beckons, I want to muse about this. It's more talk about perspective.

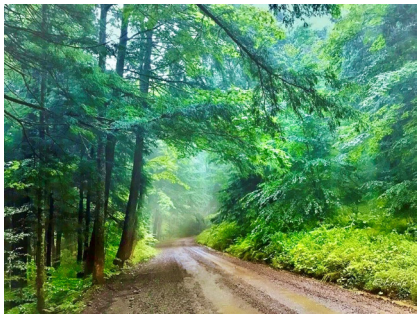
A new year invites us to notice how our seeing has changed. Perspective, over time, becomes less about proving what we can do and more about paying attention to what moves us. It should never be about proving ourselves…we already know every one of us is talented. And, honestly, there is so much more to life- and photography- than that.

So here is what I think. As photographers, we grow quietly. We learn when to wait, when to let a scene unfold, and when not to take the picture at all. The longer we photograph, the more we understand that meaning often presents itself in small, ordinary moments—the light we see, the stories that are sometimes overlooked, but that should still be told.

As this year begins, I'm interested in making photographs that reflect experience, patience, and a deeper way of seeing.

May the year ahead give all of us the time and the perspective to keep growing.

©Linda Stager



Member Favorites©Linda Stager

The Grand Canyon Photography Club

2026 Officers:

President: Missy Volino

Vice President: Brad Adams

Treasurer: Gary Thompson

Recording Secretary: Tana Carpenter

Corresponding Secretary: Linda Stager

Directors:

2025-2026:
Greg Caulkins, Will Slotter

2026-2027

Karen Mitcheltree, Casey Volino

Committee Chairpersons:

Newsletter: Mia Lisa Anderson

Membership: Gary Thompson

Exhibits: Open

Website: Mia Lisa Anderson

Publicity: Linda Stager

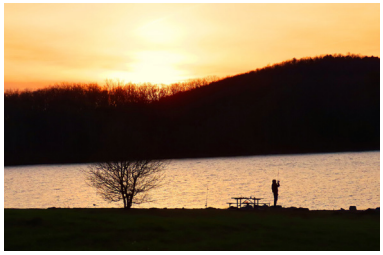
For more information, please contact:
president@gcphotoclub.org

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	
Beginning Balance	$2,772.22
Cash IN	
Dues	$125.00
Cash OUT	
Bank Fee	$3.00
Web Site Fees	$216.56
Ending Balance	$2,677.66
	Respectfully Submitted
	Gary Thompson, Treasurer



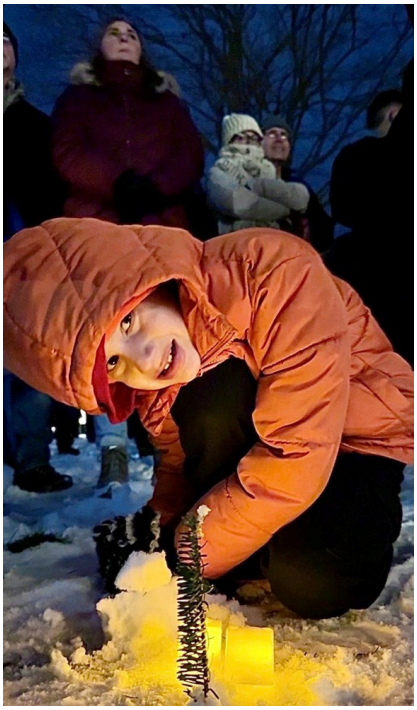
Member Favorites©Mary Sweely

Why Perspective Matters

Since it's the new year, I thought I'd talk about perspective. Perspective counts—in life and in photography.

Perspective is one of the quiet forces that shapes a photograph long before the shutter is pressed. It determines how a viewer enters an image, where their eye travels, and what feels important. While light and subject often get the most attention, perspective is what gives a photograph depth, intention, and meaning.

At its simplest, perspective is about where you choose to stand. A small shift—kneeling instead of standing, stepping left instead of right—can completely change the story an image tells. Shooting from eye level often feels familiar and comfortable, but moving higher or lower can introduce drama, intimacy, or calm. Perspective controls scale as well; it can make a distant mountain feel monumental or a quiet detail feel significant.



©Linda Stager

Planning perspective helps eliminate clutter. By consciously choosing your viewpoint, you decide what stays in the frame and what disappears.

In the photo of the little boy, I was actually on the ground. His family had to help me up afterwards! But I like the crop and the perspective…his level with his family in the background. (By the way, always ask permission of a child's folks first if you are going to take a photo.)

I often talk about photography being a subtractive process. A strong composition frequently comes from excluding more than including, and perspective is the tool that allows you to simplify. It also helps establish relationships between elements—foreground, middle ground, and background—creating a sense of space that invites the viewer to linger.

You know my photography is all about emotion. I would suggest that yours should be too. Perspective is not just a technical choice; it's an emotional one.

A low angle can convey strength or wonder. A distant viewpoint can suggest solitude or reflection. When you plan perspective with intention, you can guide how a photograph is felt, not just how it looks.

In the end, perspective asks an essential question before you press the shutter button: How do I want this moment to be seen? My suggestion is that you make your New Year's resolution to intentionally plan your perspective on things—that includes life—and photos.

Happy New Year. May 2026 be a great year for photography.

GCPC 2026 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 Deane Center, Main Street, Wellsboro:

January: Linda Stager

Mini-Solo Shows at Arise Cafe, Central Ave., Wellsboro:

January: Linda Stager

The Warehouse Theater: Bruce Dart & Linda Stager

The position of exhibit coordinator has been filled by Susan and Jim Storment

Please contact them if you would like to exhibit at one of the venues. First come, first serve.

jamesstorment@gmail.com

susanlovejoy@yahoo.com

Programs and Themes:

January 13, 2026: *Panel Discussion "Why I Take Photos"*-everyone is encouraged to participate. Critique: *Holidays*

February 10, 2026: Winter Light presented by Linda Stager. Critique: Your Favorite Image and Why

March 10, 2026: Editing Panel-What You Use & Favorite Feature. Critique: Winter Light

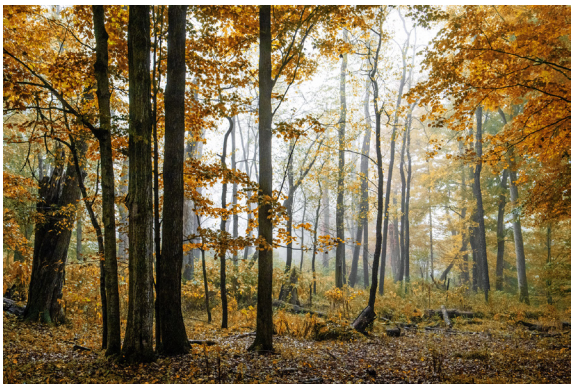
April 14, 2026: Family Groupings for Portraits presented by Karen Mitcheltree. Critique: Before & After Edited Images

May 12, 2026:Social Media & Photography presented by Linda Stager. Critique: Family Portraits

June 9, 2026: Nature Photography Agenda presented by Brad Adams. Critique: Social Media Image

January Refreshments:

No one signed Up



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