

IN FOCUS



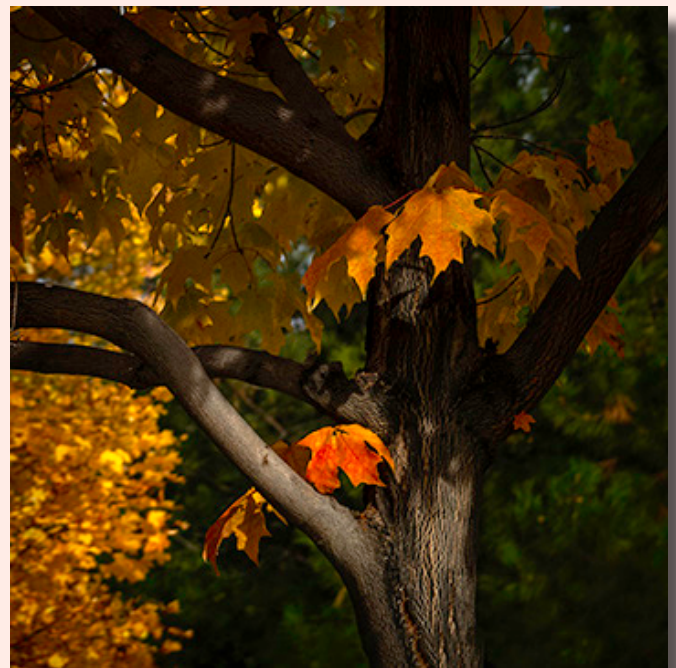
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

At our recent CCC board meeting, the board members weren't ready to discuss in-person meetings yet, and we wondered if we were doing all we could to provide value for membership dues during the wait. The monthly critiques, although not as good as in-person versions, are still a fun way to keep things going.

We all felt that the Spirit of Central Oregon book project has real potential for stoking club-wide collaboration while also stimulating individual growth. (Your square dance club can't offer that level of pandemic activity!)

To further that goal and replace our missing program nights, we're devoting the third Monday of the month time slots (for now) to zoom meeting discussions and member "challenge" submissions. The February challenge is either "City Life" or something to do with "Towns and Cities of Central Oregon." My personal suggestion, not just for this challenge but in general, is that you clear your mind, take a few relaxing deep breaths, and think about what the phrase "spirit of Central Oregon" conjures up emotionally for you, and then devise a plan to capture and communicate that emotion in your own style.

I tried this thinking myself and came up with a mental image of happy and boisterous people outside the Barrio Grill in Bend on a Friday evening, with smells and sounds that projected festivity. (Hmmm... smells? sounds?) It's a challenge, all right, but I have some ideas. (Maybe some motion blur, happy people, warm light, reflections in the glass window, etc.) There are, of course, other ways to go, but if you can take "spirit of Central Oregon" as something emotionally meaningful to you (and you live here, so you should be able to do that) and successfully communicate that emotional meaning to others through a photograph, well that's art! By the way, did anything just immediately pop into your mind about Central Oregon after reading this? If so, thank your subconscious for offering you that starting point. Good luck!
Cheers, Dan



"Fall's Red and Gold Leaves"
©Bev Murphy
Theme "Fall Colors"

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Member Gallery: Jan	Page 3-6
Book Project	Page 7
Themes for 2022	Page 7
2021 Wrap Up	Page 8
Another View	Page 9
General Info	Page 10

Welcome to **IN FOCUS**, newsletter of the Cascade Camera Club, located in Bend, Oregon.

Currently we are not meeting in person. Our meetings are usually held at Larkspur Community Center (formerly known as the Bend Senior Center), 1600 SE Reed Market Rd, the First and Third Monday of each month (except September) depending on COVID restrictions. Check the Cascade Camera Club Website for meeting updates.

Website: cascadecameraclub.com
Email: cascadecameraclub.com/contact/

January Critiquers
Nancy and Paul Speaker
Theme Was "Fall Colors"

SUBMISSION DEADLINE
11:59 p.m. ON THE WEDNESDAY
PRIOR TO CRITIQUE NIGHT



JANUARY SUBMISSIONS

Theme:

John Aylward	Colors Embracing the Elwha River
Bob Bush	Santiam Pass Colors
James Dunn	Flight Under the Milky Way
Blanche Feekes	Mt Moran at Oxbow Bend
Julie Furber	The Edge of Fall
Mike Gallagher	Creekside Colors
Shireen Gastineau	Montana Colours
Joe Hudspeth	Canadian Grain Train
Bev Murphy	Fall's Red and Gold Leaves
Steve Peters	Colorful Carpet
Michael Rouse	Winter is Here
Barb Rumer	Clear Lake Fall Spectrum
Brian Russel	Bulrush
Ken Sandine	Leaves and Concrete
Jack Schade	Fall on the Little Deschutes
Dan Schafer	Steens Aspens
Todd Towell	Free Fall
Greg Waddell	Ribbon of Gold



Critiquer for February
Kevin Kubota



©Shireen Gastineau



©Mike Gallagher



©Blanch Feekes

January Images
"Fall Colors"



©Barb Rumer



©Ken Sandine

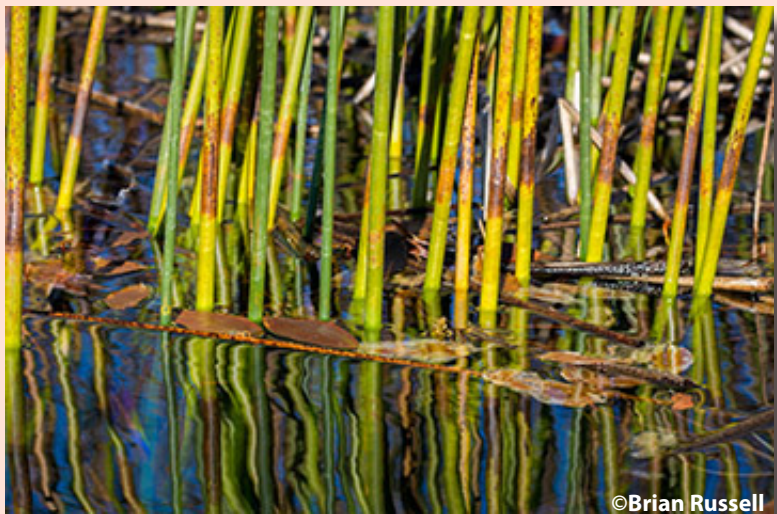


January Images
"Fall Colors"





January Images
"Fall Colors"





©Bob Bush

January Images
"Fall Colors"



©Michael Rouse



©Joe Hudspeth

BOOK PROJECT

Last October, we announced a one-year project to create and publish a photography book about central Oregon. We have established a portal on the Club's website to receive photos and many photos have already been submitted. With the holidays behind us, we hope that many more members will start thinking about photographs for the book and will submit those photos.

The Board has now established two additional ways of facilitating and encouraging member participation in the book project.

1. **Book Project Forum:** This Webpage will now have a discussion forum for members to post ideas, or ask questions, about the book. Any member can post suggestions about possible upcoming photo opportunities and recommendations or questions about photography ideas for the book. For example, a member might remind us all of an upcoming event in Central Oregon. Or a member might tell us that the wildflowers are great on Coffin Mountain. That discussion forum can be found by clicking on the "book project 2022" icon on the Club webpage.

2. **Until we can resume in-person meetings, the Club will reawaken our dormant program nights** with a series of Central Oregon image challenges that will take place as zoom meetings on the 3rd Monday of each month. We will specify a topic each month – corresponding to possible book topics – and members will be able to submit one image. Photos will be anonymous so everyone should feel free to submit anything or comment about anything. The point will be to explore what it means to have a "good" photograph for a book – not to grade or critique any particular image. We hope that seeing the different ways that other members add their own creative twist on a common subject will be both enjoyable and educational. Realize, for example, a theme of "bridge" could induce an architectural shot, but it could also induce an abstract, a portrait taken on a bridge, or a macro close-up of a piece of the bridge, and so on. Through individuality we will see creativity!

In our discussions with members about this book, we have realized that there may be some lack of clarity about what kinds of images should be submitted. We know that members will submit images that illustrate

2022 THEMES

Feb	Unexpected
Mar.....	As Close As You Can Go
Apr	Black & White
May	Anything Railroad
Jun	Feathers
Jul	Isolated
Aug	Abandoned Buildings
Sep	Night Life
Oct	Barns
Nov	Snow
Dec	The Shape of Water

the great natural beauty that surrounds us in Central Oregon. We encourage members to also think about life in Central Oregon in general – its arts scene, its people, its events, and everything else that makes Central Oregon special. So, in documenting life of Central Oregon, we encourage members to also consider thinking like a photojournalist. These images are not being critiqued or graded and no one really knows what photograph will be good for the book until we have started to put that book together. So, please don't hesitate to submit images.

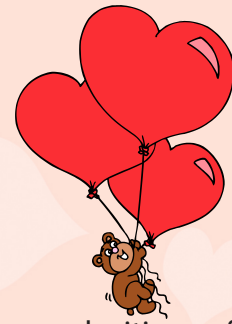
It will be great if this Book Project results in a nice photography book. But more importantly, the challenge of thinking about and attempting to document and illustrate the life and spirit of this community can be and hopefully will be a great photography experience for all of us.

With that in mind, **please submit images, visit the website forum and participate in the ongoing discussion about what to shoot.**

And please join us on our first Program Night – on February 21 at 7 p.m. And now – drum roll – the first topic for that Program Night will be "City Life, Towns and Cities of Central Oregon." You will receive an email with a zoom link prior to the meeting.

To submit your "City Life, Towns and Cities of Central Oregon" image for Program Night. Size it per our critique submission sizing and send to Bev Murphy - bbmurphy@earthlink.net. All photos will be anonymous. Deadline will be Saturday February 19th at noon.

2021 Image Critique Wrap Up



Arguably the most visible Cascade Camera Club activity is the submission and critique of member images. Certainly, it has been during the Pandemic.

As an educational organization the Cascade Camera Club encourages members to stretch their respective photographic comfort levels by submitting images monthly that interpret themes. In 2021, 44 members, more than 50% of our club's 79 members, submitted 273 images. All but ten images, more than 95% of all images, were theme images! Clearly, members are up to the challenge. Thirty-six of the 44 members submitted only theme images – more than 80%.

Each year, we track numbers related to these submissions. Not only do we look at how many members participate and submit theme images, we also identify how many times during the year members submitted images. There were six members who submitted an image every month (if you must know, these are John Aylward, Blanche Feekes, Bev Murphy, Michael Rouse, Dan Schafer and John Stewart). Five of those six submitted only theme images.

A third element of the critique, of course, is comments about the images from a critic each month. We invite club members and non-members to critique these images. Their comments inform us about photography, how our interpretations impact viewers and how preparation of photographic images adds impact to our imagery. We owe them so much gratitude! Critics in 2021 were members Robert Agli, Bob Bush, Ric Ergenbright, George Lepp, Bev Murphy, Dan Schafer and John Williams. Non-members who critiqued were Oscar Berlanga, Steve Giardini, Cory O'Neill, Abbott Schindler plus Nancy and Paul Speaker (of the Pasadena Photochromers) – many of these have been members in past years. Since we are not meeting in-person, critics must write their critiques instead of providing extemporaneous comments to members sitting in front of them – a challenge to some and, I am sure, a relief to others.

We ask that our critics list their favorites of the submitted images they critique. More than 60% of members (28 of 44) who submitted images received a "critic's choice" designation. This speaks to the overall talent of club members to receive such recognition from a diverse group of critics.

Without the Cascade Camera Club's website, this activity would not be visible to the membership. The website aids the critiquing activity by providing a place to submit and store submitted images as well as a gallery to display images and comments by critics plus allowing members to add their comments to the images. Without the support and creativity of our webmaster Emil Teague, this important club activity would not be possible. Thank you Emil!

Another View By Robert Agli

Finding Validation

As social animals we like to share. Aside from the personal joy of creating images sharing those images with friends and family are also part of the joy. If we are truly honest with ourselves there is a little part of our brain that is always seeking affirmation for our efforts.

Over the years I have entered a few photo contests with varying degrees of success or not. I concluded that I stood a much better chance of getting hit by lightning than winning a national photo contest. I had a real epiphany when a nationally recognized photographer told me that my work was good enough to be published in magazines and taught me how to do that. This was in the days of yore before the internet. If you wanted to get published in a magazine you had to submit tear sheets of your work. It was a real Catch 22. If you wanted to be published you had to demonstrate your skills by showing published work, duh. So you would start small and every article that was published was put in a book. (See accompanying photo). The more tear sheets you had the more work you got. The real trick was organizing your books around subject matter. If you wanted to photograph food you sure as heck didn't want a book of sporting events. If the publication was out of town that meant you had to send your "book" to the photo editor and trust it would be returned. The photo editor was the quality control gate keeper. They set the standard for photography for

their publication and they were ruthless. They had no time for substandard work and heaven forbid if they actually threw you a bone and you screwed up. That's it, you were dead. I loved it. Someone actually thought my work was good enough to publish and get photo credit and, as a bonus, I got paid for it. It was and has always been the ultimate validation for me.

I miss those gatekeepers who preserved and demanded a high standard. Now we have the internet. Anyone can post any garbage, ugh!

There is, however, a unique opportunity to experience the validation of having your work published.



Our camera club is offering everyone the opportunity to submit images for the club book with the working title "The Spirit of Central Oregon". While nice images of our scenic viewpoints may have a place, the spirit of this area is about the people, the events and all the experiences in Central Oregon. If you can't think

of a single thing that tells a pictorial story about Central Oregon maybe you should consider another hobby. This is such an image rich opportunity. Pick up the Go section of The Bulletin and there are probably 100 opportunities published every Thursday. While I can't speak for all of the photo editing team I am going to be looking for images seen through the photographer's eye and not through 20 layers of Photoshop magic. My vision is this book is about the spirit of place not about your skillful alteration of reality. I'm going to be far more impressed with good street photography.

TWO FEBRUARY MEETUP GROUP EVENTS

**Night Photography at The Old Mill District
February 4th 2022**

**SIGN UP by February 4th
<https://meetu.ps/e/KKMS1/fwvCY/i>**

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MOONLIGHT PHOTOGRAPHY SNOWSHOE HIKE

**at Virginia Meissner
February 16th 2-7ish PM
Sign up through the Meetup App or
email Reenie at
iamphotoartist@yahoo.com
RSVP by Feb 16th Noon**

REMINDER

This is for all members who use a photo editing program such as Lightroom, ACR, Photoshop. etc.. Remember to **change your auto copyright data year to 2022** if you use that option.

IN REMEMBRANCE

We have just heard from Richard Fredericks, a past active member of CCC. His wife Gayle, passed away on December 22, 2021 from Alzheimer's. His address is: 20 Bayon Drive apt#231 South Hadley, Ma. 01075. His email: richardfredricks61@gmail.com

A memorial will be planned for a later date. The family has requested, if you're so inclined, in lieu of flowers, a donation be made to the Alzheimer's Association.



CASCADE CAMERA CLUB

2022 OFFICERS

cascadecameraclub.com

**Dan Schafer
President**

**Bob Bush
Vice President**

**Julie Furber
Secretary**

**Todd Towell
Treasurer**

**Shireen Gastineau
Member-at-Large**

**Robert Agli - Program
Co-Chairman**

**Brent McGregor
Program
Co-Chairman**

**Ruth Baker - Membership
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**Ralph Delamarter
Multi Media Chairman**

**Bev Murphy
Communication Editor**

**Jim Sellers
Audio Chairman**