



*“Buffalo Morning” ©Mike Thornton
Theme “Panorama”*



April 2026
Volume 24: Issue 4

CLUB EVENT SCHEDULE

April

- 6th Critique Night: Theme/Open
Theme: Golden Ratio
- 7th Photo Luncheon at Cafe Sintra 11:30am
- 20th Program Night: Steve Giardini
- 21st Photo Luncheon at Cafe Sintra 11:30am

May

- 4th Critique Night: Theme/Open
Theme: Graceful
- 5th Photo Luncheon at Cafe Sintra 11:30am
- 18th Program Night: Jeffrey Murray
- 19th Photo Luncheon at Cafe Sintra 11:30am

June

- 1st Critique Night: Theme/Open
Theme: Echoes
- 2nd Photo Luncheon at Cafe Sintra 11:30am
- 15th Program - Member Night
- 16th Photo Luncheon at Cafe Sintra 11:30am

IN FOCUS

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

Our meetings are held at Elks Lodge the First and Third Monday of each month (except September) from 6:00pm until 8:30pm. We use the 3 Sisters room. Check the Cascade Camera Club Website for any changes.

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

**March Critiquer
Jeffery Murray**

Theme:
Panorama

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE
11:59 pm PST ON THE MONDAY
PRIOR TO CRITIQUE NIGHT**

MARCH SUBMISSIONS

Theme:

Robert Agli	Moon Over Cascades
Jim-Albamont	The Quiet Hour
John Aylward	The Oregon Coast
Ruth Baker	Sailers Take Warning
Chris Bales	Kauai on Fire
Ralph Delamarter	Launch
Blanche Feekes	Moraine Lake
Mike Gallagher	Old Mill Pan 6
Kenneth Meyer	Mt Hood Reflection
Mike Norkitis	Shimmer
Steve Peters	Galactic Barn
Greg Romney	Sisters
Brian Russell	Pink Cockatoo
Dan Schafer	Our Living Room
Larry Teague	Buffalo Morning
Mike Thornton	SF Skyline
Bob Trygg	

Open:

David Gurule	Workbound
Jim St John	Getting Ready

**Critiquer for April
Rob Kerr**



©Mike Norkitis

March - Theme Images
"Panorama"



©Ruth Baker



©John Aylward



©Dan Schafer



©Robert Agli



©Bob Trygg

March - Theme Images
"Panorama"



©Blanche Feekes



©Chris Bales



©Steve Peters



©Kenneth Meyer



©Ralph Delamarter

March - Theme Images
"Panorama"



©Larry Terague



©greg Romney



©Jim Albamont



©Brian Russell



©Mike Gallagher

March Open Images



Themes for 2026

Jan	Simplify	Robert Agli
Feb	Unusual Perspective	Abbott Schindler
Mar	Panorama	Jeffery Murry
Apr	Golden Ratio	Rob Kerr
May	Graceful	Joe Kline
Jun	Echoes	Dan Schafer
Jul	Chiaroscuro	Kevin Kubota
Aug	Storm	Todd Towell
Sep	Thrilling	John Williams/Guest
Oct	In the Dark	Bev Murphy
Nov	Grandscapes	Cory O'Neil
Dec	Stimulus/Response	Ric Ergenbright

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I am excited to announce we have a new Multimedia Chair. Please welcome Micheal Thornton, a new Cascade Camera Club member and the newest member of the volunteer leadership team. We are grateful to have his experience and expertise leading this very important committee. Chris Bales will continue as our webmaster, and we will still depend on volunteers to be a part of the projectionist committee.

I am also excited to announce Daniel Gregory <https://www.danieljgregory.com/> has agreed to conduct a full day classroom-based workshop on Sunday October 18th prior to his club presentation on Monday October 19th. Registration for members is \$25.

A tentative agenda is as follows:

Morning session

Basic Post Processing Workflow

This will be primarily focus on Lightroom tools but can be applied to any processing program. In general, this will include an overview of where to start, what adjustments to make first, global vs local adjustments etc.

The Magic of LR Masks

A deeper dive into the powerful new masking tools and how to use them to your advantage.

Afternoon session

The Help Desk

This will be a live post processing session. Bring your favorite images, or those you are struggling with on a portable drive. Daniel will offer thoughtful critiques (if requested) and walk through post processing options. You can bring a laptop to follow along but it is not required. This is still a work in progress so if you have suggestions or would like for him to cover a specific topic please contact Todd Towell at president@casadecameraclub.com.

Todd Towell

President, Cascade Camera Club

APRIL 20TH PROGRAM FEATURES STEVE GIARDINI BLISSFUL EXPLOREATION

Presentation Description:

Creative photography has no boundaries. Steve will share his journey from objective, representational photography to his current expressive style. He will discuss the reasons, techniques, and challenges behind his shift in approach. Steve will display images of his new work and talk about the methods he uses.

Bio:

Steve J. Giardini is a photographic artist who creates expressive images. He is a photographer, educator, coach, mentor, and public speaker. Steve is based in Bend, Oregon.

Steve uses a camera to create subjective photographic art that communicates experiences, concepts, and ideas. His artistic approach holds that making art requires human skill and creative imagination. Currently, Steve focuses on photographic abstractions, often combining two or more images into a single composite photo using techniques like multiple in-camera exposures and photo layering.

He teaches photography at Central Oregon Community College, offers private workshops, and coaches individuals to reach their next-level photographic goals. The Sisters Gallery and Frame Shop in Sisters, Oregon, represents Steve's print work.

Check out Steve's web page: <https://stevegiardini.com/>

The 2026 KelbyOne Lightroom Conference (May 4–6) 2026

Join us May 4–6, 2026 for three days of focused Lightroom training designed to help you edit faster, create stronger images, and get the most out of Lightroom. Right now, you can secure your spot at the special presale price of just \$139 (regularly \$299).

You'll learn from top Lightroom experts who will teach you how to:

- Turn ordinary photos into images that truly stand out
- Master color, tone, and contrast for professional-quality edits
- Speed up your workflow and stay organized in Lightroom
- Take advantage of Lightroom's newest tools and features
- Develop a consistent editing style that elevates your photography

Whether you shoot landscapes, portraits, travel, wildlife, street photography, or everyday moments, you'll walk away with practical editing techniques you can start using right away.

We are including a new feature to some of the newsletters called **Guest Contributor**. It may become a regular feature, pending our ability to acquire appropriate material. It will center around all aspects of photography, photo editing/software, gear, travel, etc.

GUEST CONTRIBUTOR

Beyond the Camera: Creativity, Noticing, and the Art of Seeing

By Kahli April

OFFBEAT Photography

In a world where cameras are faster, sharper, and smarter than ever, technical skill alone is no longer what sets great photographers apart. What truly differentiates meaningful work from forgettable images is creativity -- the ability to see, interpret, and express the world in a way that feels personal and alive.

Creativity isn't an optional extra in photography. It's the quiet engine behind every strong image. It informs what you point your camera at, why you choose that subject, and how you decide to tell the story. Two photographers can stand side-by-side with the same gear, the same light, and the same scene, and still create entirely different images. That difference is creativity at work.

Creativity Is a Skill, Not a Personality Trait

One of the biggest misconceptions in photography is that creativity is something you either have or you don't. In reality, creativity is a practice. It's something you strengthen through intention, curiosity, and repetition -- much like composition, exposure, or editing.

At the core of creativity is noticing. Noticing changes in light before it becomes dramatic. Noticing small gestures, subtle colour relationships, quiet moments, emotional shifts, and overlooked details. Noticing what draws you in rather than what you think you're supposed to photograph. The more you train yourself to notice, the more material you give your creativity to work with.

Why Creativity Leads to More Successful Photography

Photographers who actively nurture creativity tend to:

- Develop a stronger personal voice
- Create work that feels more emotionally resonant
- Adapt more easily when conditions aren't "perfect"
- Stay engaged and inspired over the long term
- Build bodies of work that feel intentional rather than accidental

Success in photography, however you define it, is rarely about chasing trends. It's about cultivating a way of seeing that's uniquely yours.

Five Ways to Actively Strengthen Your Creativity

1. Practice Noticing Without Shooting

Spend time in a place without taking photos. Observe how the light moves, how people interact, how patterns repeat. Creativity often begins before the camera comes out.

Continue on next page

2. Slow Down Your Process

Fewer frames, more intention. When you slow down, you're forced to make choices, and choice is where creativity lives.

3. Change the Process You Normally Follow

Shoot with one, different focal length. Limit yourself to one subject. Photograph only shadows or reflections for a day. Constraints sharpen creative thinking.

4. Reflect on Your Work (Not Just Edit It)

Ask yourself why an image works or doesn't. What caught your attention? What were you noticing in that moment? Reflection turns experience into growth.

5. Feed Your Creativity Outside of Photography

Read, write, walk, listen to music, have conversations, sit in silence. Creativity thrives when it's nourished beyond the camera.

Creativity isn't something you wait for. It's something you show up for. By learning to notice more deeply and working your creative muscles with intention, photography becomes less about chasing images and more about responding innately to the world around you. And that's where the most meaningful work is made.

For more information about OFFBEAT Photography, check out their website at <https://offbeatphoto.ca/>.



By Kahli April
OFFBEAT Photography