



August 2023

A NOTE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

The new camera season has officially started, and I'm honored to be your president again. The board's mission is to help make our club one of learning and sharing experiences in photography.

Two things are happening in August the club meeting on the 28th will be a webinar by David duChemin on the "Heart of Photography." It will be at the Mary Fisher Theater from 6:30 to 8:30pm. Plus, we will have a Zoom meeting with Lou from CNP Safari to promote his workshop in October, which the SCC will host. You will receive a burb with the Zoom link if you want to learn more.

Pam Holmes, our Program Chair, has been busy filling our monthly meetings schedule with some of the best professional photographers. She also put together two hands-on workshops for 2024. We will continue to hold Learning Sessions with some of the advanced members of our club. We would like you to be involved with the monthly critiques this year. Brad Kincaid, Cherie Tolliver, and Bob Kenney have worked hard to make the critiques and peer-reviewing run more smoothly. They have gotten excellent feedback from our members. If you want to learn more about being a peer reviewer, contact Brad; it will help make you a better photographer. Steve Wells is involved with our mentoring program. Contact Steve if you want help with cameras, software, or a general photography question.

Toward the end of last season, Michelle Wheatcraft, Sally Nelson, and I encouraged camera club members to invite other members to make one-day trips. I will send out simple instructions on how to plan a trip of your own. We discovered that by spending time with other camera club members, you get to know them and develop a special bond of excitement about photography. At our monthly meeting, we chat but do not have much time to develop friendships.

These are exciting times to be a member of the Sedona Camera Club, get your dues paid, and be a member that gets involved.

Say hello at our August 28th meeting,

Tim

Timothy See

AUGUST BOARD MEETING: August 21, 10am-12noon

SEDONA CAMERA CLUB MEMBERS MEETING: August 28, 2023

At the Mary Fisher Theatre at the Sedona International Film Festival Complex

2030 W. State Route 89A, Sedona Arizona, 6:30-8:30pm

Submissions for September Critiques will be open: August 1, 2023

David duChemin, AUGUST PRESENTATION



TWO ROWERS

David duChemin

“HEART OF THE PHOTOGRAPH”

Join the Sedona Camera Club for a prerecorded presentation by professional photographer David duChemin on August 28, 2023.

A compelling photograph is more than visual. It's visceral. We don't only see it, we feel it. It's more than just focusing our lenses, it's also focusing the attention of those who will experience our photographs. Great gear helps, but what about the other tools? What about juxtaposition and mystery, story, mood, depth, and energy? What about the power of a great moment? And when it comes to gear, is it enough that we have all the tools, like great optics, or should we be developing a sensitivity to the unique ways in which different focal lengths amplify the feeling of a scene when used well?

“Heart of the Photograph” is an inspiring presentation about these very ideas, and it will change the way you make your photographs and reignite the spark if it has cooled off.

Photographer and best-selling author David duChemin has taught this amazing craft on all seven continents, and has appeared on stages for companies like Amazon and Apple to teach the human side of this craft. With over 35 years experience making photographs, his calling is to help photographers make photographs that are more than just sharp and well-exposed. David teaches how to make photographs that light a spark in people, that communicate clearly, that captivate imaginations and grab the attention and hearts of the people who will see them. As an international workshop leader and author of best-selling books like *Within The Frame* and *The Soul of the Camera* (both published in over a dozen languages), he's taught students this incredible craft on all seven continents. David's lecture will inspire you to go deeper with your craft and find greater joy—and freedom!—in the exploration of your vision.





He's Not Happy to See Her
Print by Pam Holmes

SUBMITTING PRINTS FOR REVIEW: '23 - '24

Print images for this year's first critique review session can be submitted to the club's website starting August 1. Digital information and the photo file need to be submitted online. The actual prints can be dropped off at the August 28, 2023 meeting. The small submission tags will be available at the meeting. Prints can also be dropped off at the print chair's home until August 30, 9pm. Please make arrangements with Cherie Tolliver at cktolliver@gmail.com. Review submission regulations and requirements on the club's web page

IMPROVING OUR PHOTO CRITIQUES

Early last year, the board authorized us to pilot a new approach to our photo critiques as a final progression of steps moving our program from competition to learning critiques. We initially based our new critiques on the ArtsEdge framework described in Teaching Students to Critique by Joyce Payne at the Kennedy Center for the Arts. Further research revealed that the framework was originally promoted by Professor of Art E. B. Feldman, who wrote on the subject from 1967 to 1994. The Feldman Method has been widely used in classrooms across the Arts World.

The ArtsEdge framework provides a structure for art students to determine if an artwork is successful and comprises four steps – Description, Analysis, Interpretation and Assessment. Description and Analysis are largely objective, while Interpretation and Assessment are mostly subjective. These steps map

nicely with the rubric that we have been using for years to determine scores.

The framework structure is important because none of us are professional critics. That is why we call ourselves Peer Reviewers. We are photographers of all levels who are learning to critique. We use three steps to finish our critiques. First the Peer Reviewers have been oriented to the framework and the rubric, step 1 is to draft a few critiques (never more than 5) online, following the framework focus questions and writing prompts. In step 2, they will meet in person or via zoom with two other members to review each other's critiques and scores. Collaborative learning in these critique groups is fun and informative, and each Peer Reviewer leaves with suggestions on how to improve their critiques. Finally, in step 3, Peer Reviewers refine their critiques, and chairs give the critiques a final approval. Final critiques are released online to all members at the next monthly meeting, and all submitted images are displayed.

Approximately 75% of our respondents expressed how pleased they are with the new critiques. Our evaluation survey demonstrated that we are achieving our goals including higher quality of critiques, reduced burden on Peer Reviewers, and enhancing photography skills. Moreover, Peer Reviewers responded that they are collaboratively learning critiquing skills and enjoying the social aspects of the critique groups.

So, it appears that we are on the right track in developing our critique program. We are fortunate that Cherie Toliver will be joining Brad Kincaid to implement our critique program for the 2023-24 season, and we thank Louis Pescevic for his service last year. Bob Kenney has done a great job of securing and streamlining our critique processes.

All we need now is you and a few dozen of your colleagues in the club whom we are hoping to recruit as Peer Reviewers. Our evaluation survey indicated that if you submit images without participating as Peer Reviewers, you are missing out on much of the learning that is possible. Participating or observing critique groups is our favorite part of the whole process.

If you are interested in joining our Peer Reviewer group and participating in our photo critiques, please respond to this form. Former Peer Reviewers need not respond unless they need to change their contact information.

If you fill in the form, we will notify you regarding new member orientations in-person or via zoom. We will also have some orientations sessions for those who

want a refresher or a look at the streamlined processes. We hope you will join with us to make our critiques groups interesting, fun, and informative.

Submissions will open for September critiques will open on August 1. To submit images, login to the club website, open the Members tab, and select the Monthly Critiques: Submissions and Results. Follow the directions to upload your information and digital images for both print and digital photos. New this year is an image notes option that you are encouraged to use because it will help Peer Reviewers understand why you took the photo and what you were trying to achieve. The physical prints can be dropped off at the August 28 meeting or directly to the print chair (Cherie Tolliver if necessary. Submissions for September will close on Wednesday, August 30 at 9 pm.

If you have any questions, please contact us.

Brad Kincaid

Cherie Toliver

MILKY WAY OUTING



Photo by Michelle Wheatcraft

On June 15th the Sedona Camera Club hosted a night time outing of twelve members to Secret Slickrock Park for Milky Way photography. Some of the more experienced members helped others with getting set up for creating an image of the Milky Way rising over Cathedral Rock. We discussed the composition and camera settings for the images, and covered protocol for night time photography when in a group. We also briefly discussed post-processing options. It was a great trip and many thanks to Michelle for leading this trip.

CROSS COUNTRY HORSE OUTING



Photo by Sally Nelson

Three club members spent a great day at Fort Tuthill Park in Flagstaff photographing the Summer Coconino Horse Trials. The day that we attended this three-day event involved riders guiding horses over obstacles in a cross-country course. This equestrian course is unlike any other course in the West, involving altitude, paths through the pines, and a lot of different terrain. We practiced action photography, panning and anticipating movement. Challenges involved photographing horses jumping obstacles in shady areas and in water. Photographing a series of images as a rider jumped an obstacle was especially fun.



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