

VIEWPOINT | OCTOBER 2026

The Newsletter of the Photo Arts Club of Toledo

From the President

What a busy and memorable summer it has been for the Photo Arts Club of Toledo! Over the past few months, our members have been learning, creating, volunteering, exhibiting their work, and—most importantly—spending time together doing what we love: photography.

Our recent photo walks have taken us to some wonderful Northwest Ohio locations. We captured the downtown Toledo skyline during our evening photo walk, with some members even getting the bonus of photographing the Mud Hens fireworks over the city. More recently, members ventured to the historic Interurban Bridge along the Maumee River, giving everyone an opportunity to work with water movement, landscapes, architecture, and different photography techniques.

Our club has also been busy beyond our photo walks. We welcomed another group of beginning photographers to our IYP class, participated in community events, supported our fellow photographers exhibiting their work, and enjoyed time together at our annual club BBQ. A special thank you again to Ben Ayling and his wife, Mary Ann, for hosting the BBQ, and to John Dillon and Isaiah Miller for sharing their talents by providing headshots for our members.

None of these activities happen without members who are willing to volunteer, teach, organize, welcome visitors, share their knowledge, and simply show up. Thank you to everyone who continues to give their time and talents to our club.

Now we turn our attention to October—and it looks like we will be just as busy! Fall colors are beginning to make their appearance across Northwest Ohio, bringing with them some of the best photography opportunities of the year. It's a wonderful time to grab your camera, get outside, try something new, and enjoy the season.

I look forward to seeing where our cameras take us next!

Michele Kipplen
President, Photo Arts Club of Toledo

Major Announcement from The Studio Group! A Four-Week Class on Basic Studio Work Starts in October

We will cover studio operations, set up of gear, posing, and plenty of time to do it yourself. This class is designed for the photographer that wants to expand their knowledge and learn more about light. If you know nothing about studio work, this class is for you.

The classes start Wednesday October 28th 7 -9 PM and run for four weeks, ending on Wednesday November 18th. Please sign up for the classes through the Events Calendar. Slots are limited due to the size of our clubhouse.

Contact John Dillon at jdillon356@aol.com if you have questions.

Fall Club Members Cookout: A Heartfelt Thank You

A heartfelt thank you to Ben Ayling and his wife, Mary Ann, for opening their home and graciously hosting our Photo Arts Club BBQ! It was a wonderful opportunity to step away from our cameras for a little while, enjoy some great food, share plenty of laughs, and simply spend time together as friends.

Ben and Mary Ann, your warm hospitality made everyone feel welcome and helped create a truly enjoyable evening. We are so grateful for your generosity and for giving our club such a special opportunity to gather and connect.

We would also like to extend a special thank you to club members John Dillon and Isaiah Miller for providing headshots for our members during the gathering. Thank you for sharing your time and photography talents with the club—it is members helping members that makes our community so special.

Thank you to everyone who helped make the evening one to remember!



October Photo Adventures

Sunday, October 25 – Fall Photo Walk at Ludwig Mill | 3:00 p.m.

Meet us at the mill by 3:00 p.m. for an afternoon of fall photography. In addition to photographing the exterior and surrounding fall scenery, we will have the opportunity to tour and photograph inside the historic mill, giving members a chance to capture details, textures, architecture, and the character of this unique location.

Parking is located across the street from the mill. **Exact coordinates and additional details will be emailed closer to the date.** Bring your camera, comfortable walking shoes, and be ready for a fun afternoon of exploration and photography.

Sunday, November 1 – Historic Woodlawn Cemetery Fall Photo Walk | 3:00 p.m.

Join us for a fall afternoon exploring and photographing **Historic Woodlawn Cemetery**. With its beautiful architecture, monuments, mature trees, and fall foliage, there will be plenty of opportunities to work on composition, details, landscapes, and visual storytelling. Photo walks are a great way to get out with your camera, practice your skills, exchange ideas with fellow photographers, and discover new places to photograph. All club members are encouraged to join us!

Future Photo Walk Adventures?

Have an idea for a future photo walk? Indoor or outdoor, we would love to hear it! If you know of an interesting location or have an idea for a photography experience that fellow members might enjoy, please share it with us. Some of our best club adventures begin with ideas from our members!

Volunteers Needed for Second Saturdays

We are looking for friendly club members to serve as Greeters during our Second Saturday Open House events. Greeters play an important role in helping visitors feel welcome while sharing information about the Photo Arts Club and our mission within the community. Responsibilities include opening the clubhouse, welcoming guests, answering basic questions, and helping visitors enjoy their experience while exploring our gallery and activities. If you enjoy meeting people and serving as an ambassador for the club, we would love to have your help. Your time and enthusiasm help create a positive first impression and support the success of our public events.

Register Here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C044EADA62EA5FAC25-62939081-greeters>



Heralding the Holidays - Volunteers Needed

Mark your calendars! Heralding the Holidays will take place December 4, 5 & 6, 2026.

The holiday season will be here before we know it, and we need your help to make Heralding the Holidays a success! Please watch for upcoming emails that will include a volunteer sign-up link and additional details. **We will be having a planning meeting on Sunday, October 11 at 7:00 PM via Zoom.**

We will be looking for volunteers to help decorate the exterior of the clubhouse, prepare the interior for gallery showings, serve as greeters during the Heralding the Holidays events, and assist with other activities throughout the celebration. There will be several ways to get involved, so whether you can give a little time or a lot, your help will be greatly appreciated.

A special thank you to Kayla Henderson for chairing the Heralding the Holidays Committee and helping coordinate this year's activities. Let's work together to make it a wonderful holiday season at the Photo Arts Club!



Lightroom Group Meeting

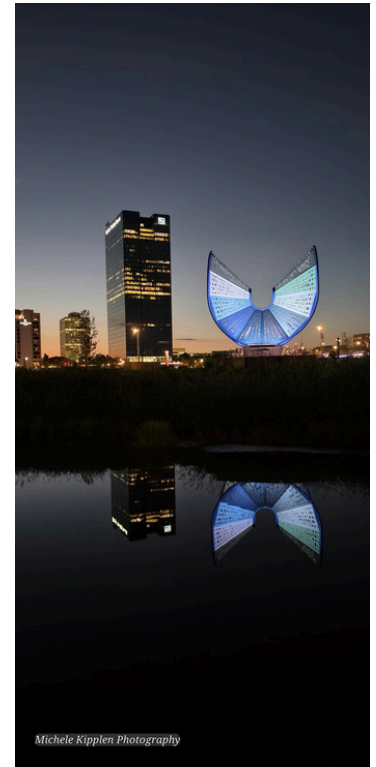
Our exploration of Lightroom continues on Tuesday, October 20, at 7:00 PM. As with all of our meetings, our goal is to collectively solve any problems or issues you may be experiencing.

If you need assistance with a particular challenge, please do not hesitate to reach out anytime.

Chris Boesel, boeselc@gmail.com

High Level Bridge Spontaneous Photo Shoot

On August 25th the club had a spur-of-the-moment photo shoot at the High Level bridge to photograph the nearly full moon over the bridge. Jack has been trying to get this for a while and we got really close this night. This was not scheduled, and was announced by a last-minute email about six hours before we met. Six people showed up. Afterwards we went to International Park to shoot the downtown skyline and the new sculpture titled Starburst.



Call for Entries! ROOTED: Four Guilds Show

Photo Arts Club of Toledo members are invited to participate in ROOTED: Four Guilds, a special exhibition bringing together artists from the Photo Arts Club of Toledo, Toledo Stained Glass Guild, Toledo Area Glass Guild, and Toledo Potters Guild. The exhibition runs October 31–November 19, 2026 at the Toledo Artists' Club & Gallery. Members may submit up to five original works for a \$35 entry fee.

The deadline to enter is October 21, so don't wait to submit your photography! We would love to see a strong representation from our club in this collaborative show.

[ROOTED: Four Guilds Show – Details & Registration toledoartistclub.com](https://toledoartistclub.com)

Behind The Shot: HMS Belfast in the River Thames by Jamie Van Natta

Whenever I travel someplace new, especially a city, I make a special effort to find a local professional photographer who does tours. Sometimes these are group tours, but often, these photographers will also have a reasonable private option. A local photographer already knows the best vantage points, the best times of day, and interesting opportunities for unique compositions. They also usually have some knowledge of the city's history and recommendations for off-the-tourist-track activities or hidden gems for local food or drinks. In short, they can be an amazing resource for exploring a city.

That's how I met Lou on a sunny day in London by the fountains in Trafalgar Square. To my surprise she had researched my new Canon R6 so she was ready to show me some tricks and try some things with the excellent image stabilization features. We had an amazing morning that included some indoor and outdoor locations and a stop for tea and a scone while we reviewed my images. Lou was a font of information about photography and London. I enjoyed our walk so much that as we were wrapping up, I asked if she was available for a night tour on my last night in London. She was, and once again we were blessed with chilly but clear weather (surprising for London in March). We headed out to the iconic Tower Bridge before walking along the Thames for a while and setting up for this shot of the HMS Belfast with Tower Bridge in the background. She sparked a love for nighttime photography that evening. This kind of subject is usually not my cup of tea, I'm much more a natural landscape and wildlife person, but city lights are now a close third!

I played with different exposure times and apertures looking for the best balance between sharpness for the fore- and background lights and reflections in the water. In the end, I was able to bring home this shot. In Lightroom I used the "Auto" button to brighten up the exposure a bit and then I cropped a little. Otherwise, it's exactly what came out of the camera.

Even though it's not a photo I would hang in my house, I was proud of how it turned out, so I had it printed and submitted it to the 2023 Annual Contest. I think the unique subject matter gave it an edge, and it took Best in Show that year, a great honor.

Equipment: Canon R6, RF 24-70mm f2.8 lens, Peak Design Carbon Fiber Travel Tripod, remote shutter release.

Settings: ISO 100, 56mm, f10, 15 second exposure.



IYP Class – Another Great Success!

Our latest Improve Your Photography (IYP) class was another great success! We welcomed four students to the clubhouse for a hands-on opportunity to become more comfortable and confident with their cameras.

Students learned how to navigate their camera settings, explored the fundamentals of composition, and worked with the Exposure Triangle—aperture, shutter speed, and ISO.

A big thank you to everyone who helped teach and support the class. Programs like IYP are a wonderful way for our club to share our knowledge, encourage new photographers, and introduce others in our community to the art of photography.



New to Photography? This Class Is for You!

Do you have a camera that's been sitting in the bag because all those buttons and settings seem overwhelming? Maybe you've been relying on Auto Mode and are ready to learn what your camera can really do. You do not need photography experience to attend our IYP classes—beginners are encouraged and welcomed!

Our instructors will help you understand your camera in a friendly, relaxed, and supportive environment. Bring your camera, your questions, and your desire to learn. We'll help you take the first steps toward creating photographs with confidence.

Watch for upcoming IYP class dates and registration information—and invite a friend who has always wanted to learn photography!

Don't Forget to Order Your Club T-Shirt!

If you haven't ordered your Photo Arts Club of Toledo t-shirt yet, there's still time! The ordering link will expire October 31, so be sure to place your order before the deadline. A portion of every purchase comes back to the club, so you'll be showing your club pride while also supporting our programs and activities.

Important: When ordering, please do not select shipping to your home address unless you live outside the area. Local orders will be distributed through the club. Order your club shirt here:

<https://photoartscluboftoledo.deco-apparel.com/>

Get your order in before October 31 and wear your Photo Arts Club shirt proudly at our upcoming events, photo walks, open houses, and community activities!

Important: Winter Wednesday Closure

Please mark your calendars! **During January and February, the Toledo Botanical Garden will be closed on Wednesday evenings for nighttime maintenance.** Club members should plan accordingly and not schedule meetings, classes, studio sessions, or other clubhouse activities after 4:00 p.m. on Wednesdays during these two months. Please keep this closure in mind as you begin planning winter club activities. Thank you for your cooperation!

2027 Annual Photo Contest Planning

On September 28th we had our first meeting for the Annual contest. While the contest doesn't open until January, the preparation beforehand needs to start early. There will be more meetings in the coming months. We hope you can attend and find out how you can help with the contest. **There will be at least one meeting each month for the remainder of 2026. Please watch your emails for zoom meeting notifications. Participation in these meetings helps the committee chairs explain the process required for another successful event!**

Toledo Area Print Option: The UToledo Art Print Center

Looking for options to print your favorite shots? Consider the **University of Toledo's Art Print Center**. They have high quality printers and a variety of paper types to choose from. The facility is open to all, but those affiliated with the university are eligible for a discounted price.

Start on this page for more information. For a print project, complete the online form, then wait for an email with a link to upload your files. If you have questions or concerns after submitting your project request form, phone and email contact info is on the web page.

What's Happening at the Botanical Gardens?

2nd Saturdays Open House - Oct 10; & Nov 14.

To volunteer as a greeter, please use the sign-up link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C044EADA62EA5FAC25-62939081-greeters>

October 13 - ROC meeting at 6 pm at the Toledo Artists Club.

Heralding the Holidays will be Dec 4-6, 2026. Watch for more information. Are you interested in helping? Contact Kayla Henderson at kaylahenderson321@gmail.com.

Board Position Open: Secretary

The Club has an open position for Secretary. If interested in volunteering, please contact Michele at michelekipplen@gmail.com.

Monthly Contest Assignments

October 2026: **Print** - Hometown Highlights

April 2027: Black & White

November 2026: Looks Like a Haunted House

May 2027: The Moon (full moon April 20th)

December 2026: By Candlelight

June 2027: Night Shot

January 2027: **Print** - A Pop of Red

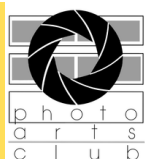
July 2027: All Natural, Nothing Man Made

February 2027: Minimalism

August 2027: **Print**: Focus on Framing, where framing the subject is creatively used in composition

March 2027: Still Life

September 2027: Patterns and Repetition



Monthly Contest Winners

The September competition assignment was “Tree, Trees, Woods, Forest.” Twenty-two photographers submitted a total of sixty-three photos. Fourteen members participated in judging. All three – photographers, photographs and judges – were an increase in number from past months!

The October contest is a print contest. The assignment is “Hometown Highlights-anything from the town you were born in.” There is the Open category too.



“Morning Glory” by Sarah Werder

Basic - 1st place
Assignment: Trees

Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“First Fire Out West” by Sarah Werder

Basic - 2nd Place
Assignment: Trees

Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“What Once Was Fall” by Sarah Werder

Basic - 3rd Place
Assignment: Trees

Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“The Sentinel” by Neeru Biyani

Intermediate - 1st Place
Assignment: Trees

Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“In Line” by Quentin Francis-Emonds

Intermediate - 2nd Place
Assignment: Trees

Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“Fall in Oak Openings” by Carrie Heller

Intermediate - 3rd Place
Assignment: Trees

Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“Morning Hath Broken” by Jim Hagan

Advanced - 1st Place
Assignment: Trees

Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“Autumn Tree World” by Rick Francis

Advanced - 2nd Place
Assignment: Trees

Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“Letchworth State Park” by Anna Koperczak

Advanced - 3rd Place
Assignment: Trees

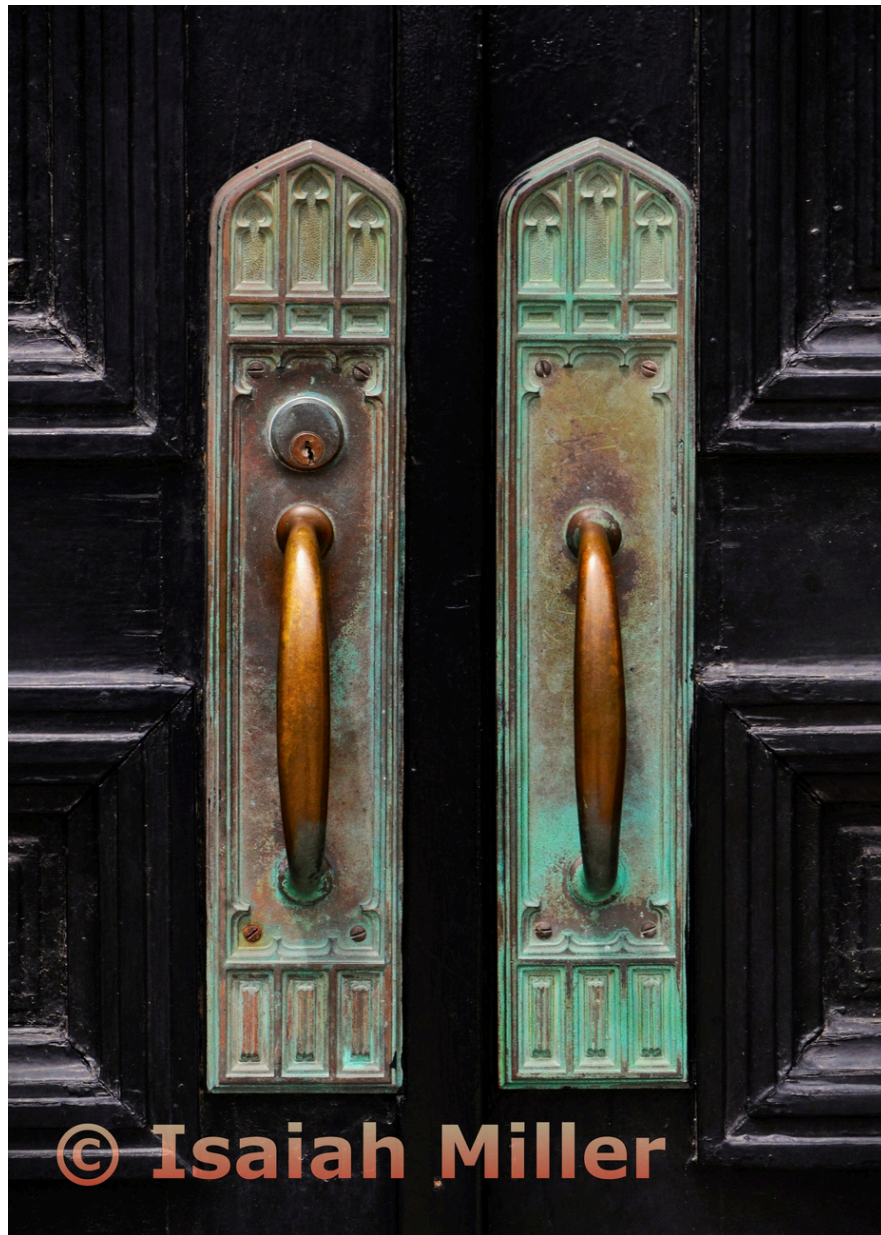
Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“Queen of the Night” by Kathryn Nelson

Intermediate - 1st Place
Open Category

Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“Let Me In” by Isaiah Miller

Intermediate - 2nd Place
Open Category

Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“Flying Thunderbirds” by Isaiah Miller

Intermediate - 3rd Place
Open Category

Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“Electric Night in the Catalinas” by Ross Ellet

Advanced- 1st Place
Open Category

Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“Lagoon and Trifid Nebulas” by Ross Ellet

Advanced- 2nd Place
Open Category

Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“Morning Landing” by Jack Myers

Advanced -3rd Place (tie)
Open Category

Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“Morning Brew” by Jim Hagan

Advanced - 3rd Place (tie)
Open Category

Upcoming Events and Meetings

October 1, Thursday, 7:00 PM: Monthly Board Meeting

October 10, Saturday, 11:00 AM-4:00 PM: 2nd Saturday Open House

October 21, Wednesday, 7:00 PM: Monthly Contest Meeting - **PRINT:** Hometown Highlights

October 22, Thursday, 12:00 AM: November Contest Opens: Looks Like a Haunted House

October 25, Sunday, 3:00 PM: Fall Photo Walk at the Mill (Additional information to follow)

November 1, Sunday, 3:00 PM: Fall photo walk at the Historic Woodlawn Cemetery

November 5, Thursday, 7:00 PM: Monthly Board Meeting

November 13, Friday, 11:30 PM: Monthly Contest Closes

November 14, Saturday, 11:00 AM-4:00 PM: 2nd Saturday Open House

November 17, Tuesday, 7:00 PM: Monthly Contest Voting Closes

November 18, Wednesday, 7:00 PM: Monthly Contest Meeting

*Please refer to the website [Events Calendar](#) for Zoom links and more information. Note that some events will **ONLY** be visible when logged in!*

Be yourself. I much prefer seeing something, even if it is clumsy,
that doesn't look like somebody else's work.

--William Klein

*Which of my photographs is my favorite?
The one I'm going to take tomorrow.*

--Imogen Cunningham

The Board of the Photo Arts Club of Toledo

President - Michele Kipplen - michelekipplen@gmail.com, 419-283-4616

Vice President - Ross Ellet rellet17@hotmail.com

Treasurer - Michele Ross - mickey.ross1204@gmail.com, 419-360-0712

Secretary - **OPEN**

Past President - Wennie Anderson - wennieanderson120@gmail.com, 734-243-3346

Board Members

Jack Myers - jrm Myers@roadrunner.com, 419-575-1568

Chris Boesel - boeselc@gmail.com

Rick Francis - rick.a.francis@gmail.com

Jerry Lohman - JerryLohman@outlook.com

Todd Grinonneau - grinolot@yahoo.com

Kayla Henderson - kaylahenderson321@gmail.com

Committees

Lightroom: Chris Boesel - boeselc@gmail.com

Studio Group: John Dillon - jdillon356@aol.com

Competition Chair: Jack Myers - jrm Myers@roadrunner.com

Website Chair: Rick Francis - rick.a.francis@gmail.com

Membership Chair: Ben Ayling - b-ayling@onu.edu

Newsletter: Rick Francis & Bob Wadas- rick.a.francis@gmail.com, bobwadas1@gmail.com

Decorating/Setup: Kayla Henderson - kaylahenderson321@gmail.com

Reminder to members: we have returned to scheduling our
Monthly Board Meetings on the first Thursday of each month at 7 p.m.
The link to join the Zoom meeting is on the [Events calendar](#).

Board meetings are open to all members