

VIEWPOINT | AUGUST 2026

The Newsletter of the Photo Arts Club of Toledo

July Studio Group-Water Drops

On July 8th Steve Stalker led a Studio Group session in the clubhouse to photograph water droplets. This was suggested by a member to get photos for the July monthly contest assignment, Water. Steve set up a dripping bottle above a pan of water on the tabletop.

We used a studio strobe with a remote trigger mounted on our camera to photograph the drips of water as they hit the surface of the water. We worked on getting the manual focus right.



Steve and his water drop setup with
Neeru Biyani and Sumit Khadka



Water drop photo from the event
by Bob Wadas

Photo Opportunity

Conneaut Ohio annually hosts the country's largest Normandy D-Day landing re-enactment. This three day event takes place this year on August 13, 14 and 15. Each of the three days the beach landing is re-enacted. Each day has other WW2 related events. Entry is free, but tickets must be downloaded from their website, as crowd size is limited. The website (<https://www.ddayohio.us/>) has many photos and includes a photo portal where visitors can upload their favorites.

Art in the Garden – Saturday, August 8 | 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Art in the Garden is just around the corner, and we are looking for volunteers to help make it a success! Throughout the event, we are seeking members to greet visitors, welcome them to our clubhouse, and encourage the community to stop by our outdoor selfie board for a fun photo opportunity.

We are also looking for ideas—and volunteers—to host a simple, hands-on photography activity that would engage visitors of all ages. Whether it's a creative photo challenge, a smartphone photography tip station, or another interactive idea, we'd love to hear your suggestions. This is a wonderful opportunity to introduce our community to the art of photography and showcase what the Photo Arts Club of Toledo has to offer.

If you're interested in volunteering or have an activity idea, please let us know. We appreciate your support!



Club Members Out and About

Congratulations to Mickey Ross and Kelly L. Chalfant for representing the Photo Arts Club of Toledo at the Toledo Festival of the Arts. The festival featured more than 130 artists showcasing original works across a wide variety of mediums. Visitors enjoyed artist demonstrations, food trucks, beer and wine, live entertainment, and family-friendly activities throughout the weekend.

Thank you, Kelly and Mickey, for sharing your passion for photography and representing our club and the photographic arts within the community. We appreciate your dedication and are proud to have you as members of the Photo Arts Club of Toledo!



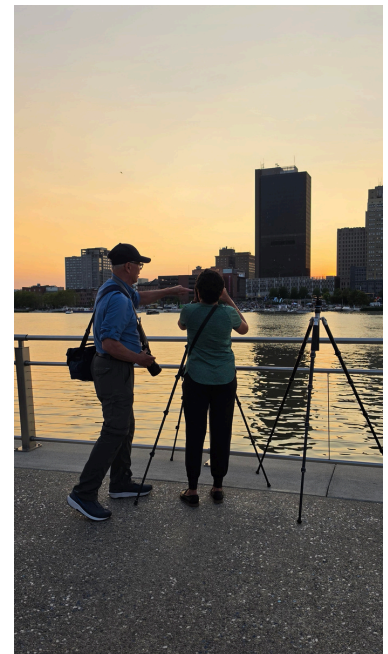
Twilight Photo Walk Success

Our recent Twilight Photo Walk was a wonderful evening of photography, fellowship, and creativity. Members gathered at International Park along the Maumee River to capture the beautiful transition from day to night as the Toledo skyline came alive with the glow of evening lights. Along the way, members shared techniques, exchanged ideas, and enjoyed photographing one of our city's most scenic views.

As an added bonus, many participants were treated to the Toledo Mud Hens fireworks display, capturing colorful bursts lighting up the night sky above the city skyline.

We were pleased to welcome 11 attendees, including 2 new members, 8 current members, and 1 guest. Thank you to everyone who joined us and helped make the evening such a success!

Do you have an idea for a future photo walk or outing? We'd love to hear it! If you have a location or photography experience you'd like to share with the club, please submit your idea to our club email, located on the Contacts page of our website.



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>

Lightroom Group Meeting

For the month of August, we will be taking a summer hiatus! Enjoy the warm weather and numerous shooting opportunities that summer brings. We will continue our exploration of Lightroom on Tuesday, September 22 at 7:00 PM.

As with all of our meetings, we will together discuss your various editing workflows, and challenges you may be encountering. Our goal is to collectively solve any problems or issues you may be experiencing. In the meantime, if there is any pressing issue that you would like immediate assistance with, please do not hesitate to drop me an email at boeselc@gmail.com.

Ben Ayling and Chris Boesel

The Photo Arts Club welcomes the following new members!

David Fine
Peter Zambo

Help Needed: Monthly Contest Backup Presenter

Jack Myers runs the monthly photo contest meeting held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. He is in need of a back-up presenter for times when he may be unavailable. You only need a PC using Windows to run the meeting. The backup presenter would just login into the contest meeting. Everything is configured and the presenter will step through the photos by using the right arrow key on their keyboard. If interested, please contact Jack at jrmyers@roadrunner.com.

Behind The Shot: Ice Water Vapor by Neeru Biyani

The theme of the July photo contest was Water, and my first thoughts were of the many seascapes, lakes, and rivers I have photographed over the years. Instead of choosing a traditional landscape, however, I wanted to present a different perspective on something we often take for granted. A photograph I had taken last December/January immediately came to mind because it captured all three states of water—ice, liquid, and vapor—which I thought would make for a unique interpretation of the theme.

The photograph was taken at the north of the Gulf of Bothnia in Sweden. We joined an excursion aboard a small icebreaker-equipped ship that cuts through the frozen sea. About 30 minutes from shore, participants have the opportunity to put on insulated neoprene survival suits and float in the icy water. Although the air temperature was around -30°F, the suits were remarkably warm and comfortable once we were in the water. Cameras and cell phones are not allowed during the floating experience, so the only photographs are those taken by the ship's photographer.

The three-hour excursion is a memorable experience. If you're willing to brave the extreme cold, you can watch the sun rise over the frozen sea at around 11:30 a.m. and take in the remarkable stillness of the Arctic landscape, interrupted only by the sound of the ship breaking through the ice.

This photograph was taken as we were disembarking from the ship. By then, it was nearly 1:30 p.m., and the sun was already setting. The entire scene was bathed in a beautiful orange glow. On either side lay the frozen sea, while the channel carved by the icebreaker revealed open water.

Steam-like vapor rose from the surface, created by the dramatic difference between the water and air temperatures, adding an ethereal quality to the scene.

The light was fading quickly, so I moved away from the ship as soon as I disembarked to avoid including other passengers in the frame. Without a tripod, I captured the image handheld at ISO 400, f/8 at 1/5000th of a second.



What's Happening at the Botanical Gardens?

2nd Saturdays Open House - Aug 8; Sept 12; Oct 10; & Nov 14.

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

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

August 11 - ROC meeting at 6 pm at the Toledo Artists Club.

Jazz in the Garden returns this year with a shortened schedule. This summer the Gardens will be closed each Thursday at 1pm thru Aug 27, 2026. We will not be able to hold anything at the Clubhouse on Thursdays during this time.

Heralding the Holidays will be Dec 4-6, 2026. Watch for more information.

Garden Closure Reminder

Please note that the Garden will be closed to regular use on Thursday evenings during the 2026 Jazz in the Garden concert series. This summer it will be closed on Thursdays through August 27. To accommodate event setup, the Garden will close beginning at 1:00 p.m., with concert gates opening at 5:30 p.m. Members planning photography outings, meetings, or visits to the Garden should keep these dates in mind and make alternate arrangements if needed. We encourage everyone to enjoy the concert series and thank you for your cooperation during this popular community event.

Monthly Contest Assignments

August 2026: On the Shore

February 2027: Minimalism

September 2026: Trees, Woods or Forest

March 2027: Still Life

October 2026: Looks like a Haunted House

April 2027: Black & White

November 2026: **Print** - Hometown Highlights

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



Annual Westcott Garage Sale

The annual Westcott Garage Sale will be held on Thursday, August 6th, opening at 10:00 AM. The sale will be located at Westcott Lighting's headquarters located at 1425 Holland Road, Suite B, Maumee, Ohio 43537. F.J. Westcott, an international lighting company, has held their annual garage sale for the past five years, using it as a way to meet local photographers and clean out stock. www.fjwestcott.com.

Westcott's sale is **CASH** only.

Shop and Swap! It's a Meet and Greet Opportunity

On Saturday, September 12, from 11:00 AM through 4:00 PM the Photo Arts Club will be hosting a Shop and Swap event. The time and date coincides with Toledo Botanical Garden's Artist Village 2nd Saturday open house monthly event.

If you have equipment you are interested in selling or swapping, bring it on over. If you are looking for something in particular, or just browsing, stop on in.

This event is a great time to meet other club members! Even if you aren't in the buying or selling market, we encourage you to stop in and say hello, share some photography stories and experiences.

Grand Rapids, Ohio Sunset Photo Shoot

Saturday, September 19th (20th as a rain date) we will have a photo outing to photograph the sunset on the Maumee River in Grand Rapids from the railroad bridge. The cost is \$10, guests are welcome, but they must also pay the fee. More details to follow.

Board Position Open: Secretary

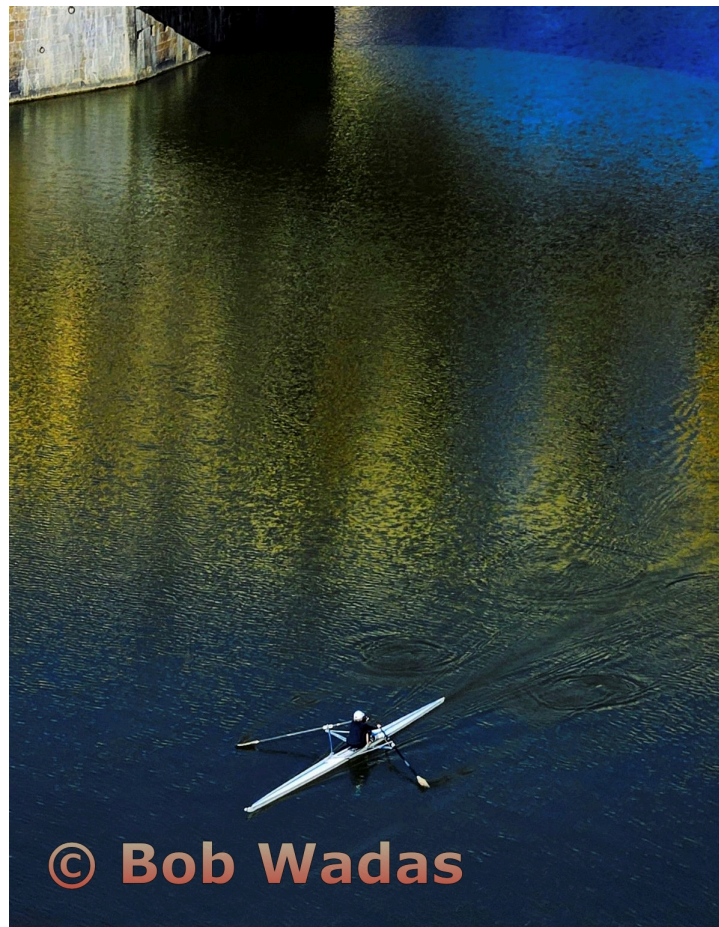
The Club has an open position for Secretary. If interested in volunteering, please contact Michele at michelekipplen@gmail.com.

Monthly Contest Winners

The July print competition assignment was “Water” Fifteen photographers submitted a total of forty-five photos. There were forty-one Water photos, and four Open category photos submitted. Twelve members participated in judging.

The August assignment is “On the Shore.” Water will be complementary to the shoreline, the beach, etc.

We encourage members to both submit photos and join in the contest review meeting. There is always interesting critique and dialogue!



“Rowing on the Arno River” by Bob Wadas

Basic - 1st place
Assignment: Water

Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“Angry Atlantic” by Bob Wadas

Basic - 2nd Place
Assignment: Water

Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



© Sarah Werder,
sarahwerder12@gmail.com

“Tongas Tear” by Sarah Werder

Basic - 3rd Place
Assignment: Water

Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“Over the Dam” by Kathy Fisher

Intermediate - 1st Place
Assignment: Water

Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“Taj Mah Iceberg” by Jamie Van Natta

Intermediate - 2nd Place
Assignment: Water

Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“Dew on Flower” by Quentin Francis-Emonds

Intermediate - 3rd Place
Assignment: Water

Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“Grass Dewdrop” by Rick Francis

Advanced - 1st Place
Assignment: Water

Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“The Big Plunge” by Rick Francis

Advanced - 2nd Place
Assignment: Water

Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“Bear Lake” by Jim Hagan

Advanced - 3rd Place
Assignment: Water

Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“Not Impressed!” by Sumit Khadka

Intermediate - 1st Place
Open Category

Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“Parked Light” by Christopher Staller

Intermediate - 2nd Place
Open Category

Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“My Favorite Office” by Jim Hagan

Advanced - 1st Place
Open Category

Monthly Contest Winners (con't)

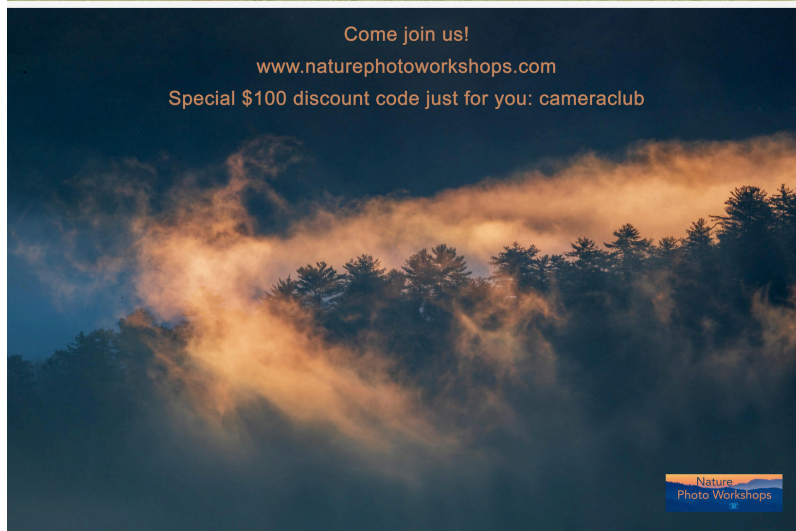


“Happy 4th Of July” by Jack Myers

Advanced - 2nd Place
Open Category

VIEWPOINT | AUGUST 2026

PACT member Ben Ayling and Atlanta Photographer Tom Yackley invite you to join them this Fall in the Great Smoky Mountains.



The special offer to our membership is valid through August 15th.

PHOTO ARTS CLUB
5403 Elmer Drive
Toledo, OH 43615



www.photoartscluboftoledo.com

Upcoming Events and Meetings

August 6, Thursday, 7:00 PM: Monthly Board Meeting

August 8, Saturday, 11:00 AM-4:00 PM: 2nd Saturday, Clubhouse

August 14, Friday, 11:30 PM: Monthly contest closes (“On the Shore”)

August 18, Tuesday, 7:00 PM: Monthly contest voting closes

August 19, Wednesday, 7:00 PM: Monthly contest meeting

August 20, Thursday, 12:00 AM: September contest opens with assignment “Tree, Trees, Woods, Forest”

September 3, Thursday, 7:00 PM: Monthly Board Meeting

September 11, Friday, 11:30 PM: Monthly contest closes (Tree, Trees, Woods, Forest)

September 12, Saturday, 11:00 AM-4:00 PM: 2nd Saturday, Clubhouse, Camera and Geat Swap

September 15, Tuesday, 7:00 PM: Monthly contest voting closes

September 16, Wednesday, 7:00 PM: Monthly contest meeting

September 19, Saturday, 7:30 PM: Sunset photo shoot, Grand Rapids

September 22, Tuesday, 7:00 PM: Lightroom Group 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!

Studio Group

The Studio Group is taking a summer break for the month of August.

Information for future Studio Group meetings will be provided as the schedule is set for the Fall.

“Photographs, which cannot themselves explain anything, are inexhaustible invitations to deduction, speculation, and fantasy.”

— Susan Sontag, On Photography

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 - jrmymers@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 & Ben Ayling - boeselc@gmail.com, b-ayling@onu.edu

Studio Group: John Dillon - jdillon356@aol.com

Competition Chair: Jack Myers - jrmymers@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