



VIEWPOINT | APRIL 2026

The Newsletter of the Photo Arts Club of Toledo

38th Annual Contest Wrap-up

Our 38th Annual Contest closed on March 28th, with 599 guests attending during the month. On opening weekend, 257 visitors were tallied. Over 200 votes were cast in the People's Choice competition. Five reports with full contest results [are posted on the website.](#)

Decorating/Setup Committee

The Decorating Committee is responsible for decorating and coordinating setups for the following events:

- Holiday Parties
- Outdoor Selfie Station (bi-monthly)
- Heralding the Holidays
- Christmas lights for the outside of the clubhouse
- Any additional special events as they arise

For more information or to get involved, please contact Kayla Henderson, kaylahenderson321@gmail.com

Sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C044EADA62EA5FAC25-62290603-decorating>

Gallery Refresh Time!

We're seeking artwork for the Annual May Sale. Members are invited to submit matted and framed pieces—available for purchase or display. We also have space for merchandise featuring your work. Artwork drop-off dates are: April 11th from 11:00am–3:30pm, April 15th from 3:00pm–5:30pm, April 18th from 12:00pm–4:00pm, and April 22nd from 3:00pm–5:30pm.

Text Michele for questions and drop-offs. Please do not email; use text messaging instead.

April Lightroom Group meeting

We will continue our exploration of Lightroom on Tuesday April 14th. At 7:00PM. This month we will begin to discuss various editing workflows. As with every meeting, our goal is to collectively solve any problems or issues you may be experiencing. We look forward to another great discussion.

Ben Ayling and Chris Boesel

Behind The Shot: *Bokeh Bulb* by Jamison Moosman

This shot was taken March 26th 2025. At the time I wasn't able to get out of my house due to my recovery from surgery. Four months prior I had been told my left foot would need to be amputated. Thankfully I only had to have part of it amputated but it required a seven-week stay in a nursing facility. I was able to go home in early January but I found normal tasks quite difficult. I could use a knee scooter in the main part of my house but had to switch to a walker to get to my dining room or garage as the scooter couldn't negotiate the step. I was totally alone in my home for 2 months getting groceries and the rest delivered.

Being cooped up by myself for so long, I decided to play around in my dining room using an old-fashioned clear light-bulb and some Christmas lights for a bokeh effect. The shot was taken using my Sony A7R3 and my budget-oriented manual focus Samyang 135 F2. I think I paid \$375 for it brand new? The build quality is poor and it's literally falling apart but the optics are pretty decent. I've had it 7 years now. As a hobbyist I tend to use it to take portraits of "Stuff" vs people.

Normally setting up a shot like this would take 5 minutes, but switching to my walker when in the dining room was hard: one trip for Christmas lights, one for the bulb, one for the tripod, then finally the camera and lens. The walker would physically wipe me out so I took lots of breaks. I think between setting up the shot and putting everything away, it took me 3 hours while the shot only took a few minutes after setup. I took the shot mid-day on my dining room table to minimize reflections and also used a circular polarizer filter to further reduce reflections. Normally I'd take this shot at night but it wasn't safe for me.

Later that night I edited the shot in Lightroom/Photo shop and really liked the results. I focused on the filament inside the bulb and shot at F2 to maximize the bokeh effect. I made sure to get as much distance between the Christmas lights and the bulb as possible. I have thought about re-creating the shot by rigging up wires and a battery to make the filament light up slightly but I haven't gotten that far.

I used an old-fashioned incandescent bulb rather than a modern LED. I've also been scouring the internet to find vintage old bulbs for this purpose. I also have dabbled with clear vases as well for this.

Fast forward eleven months and my foot is healed. Due to a strict diet my diabetes is stable and I am feeling healthy. Due to the neuropathy and part of my foot being gone I have to be careful walking and going up and down steps and can't do steep hikes anymore. Otherwise I get around pretty well. I am looking forward to the rest of 2026 and hoping to get out more with my camera. Counting my blessings!



Do you have a shot with a story to share for a future ***Behind the Shot***? **We're looking for your stories!**
Contact Rick Francis, rick.a.francis@gmail.com or photoartsclubtoledo.news@gmail.com.

Upcoming Events and Meetings

April 2, 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm: April Board meeting.

April 8, 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm: Studio Group meets at the clubhouse for still life and product shots.

April 9: First night of IYP class (filled)

April 10, 11:30 pm: Closing of submissions for the monthly contest (Open and Assignment: Food Photography)

April 11, 11:00 am to 4:00 pm: Second Saturday Open House

April 14, 7 pm: Voting for the monthly contest closes.

April 15, 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm: Monthly contest meeting

April 16: Monthly contest submissions are open for May Assignment: Architecture, and Open

May 7, 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm: May Board meeting, open to all members to attend.

May 15, 11:30 pm: Closing for monthly contest submissions (Open and Assignment: Architecture)

May 19, 7 pm: Voting for the monthly contest closes.

May 20, 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm: Monthly contest meeting

May 21: Monthly contest submissions are open for June Assignment: Something in your house, and Open

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

“For a photographer – having an observant mind is more important than having an expensive camera.”

— Sukant Ratnakar

Exclusive Artist Discount for Club Members!



Did you know that as a Photo Arts Club member, you receive a 10% discount on all American Frame products and services? In addition, with every purchase you make, a percentage of the sale is donated back to our club, helping to support our community of photographers and artists!

Register at learn.americanframe.com/alliance-discount as shown on the right, and instantly receive a 10% discount code to use on all orders. Even better, every purchase made by registered club members is tracked and totaled annually, qualifying our group for additional awards and benefits based on overall spending.

Artist Alliance Discount

Our Commitment to Art & Photography Clubs

The American Frame Alliance Program is our way of supporting art and photography clubs across the country— with exclusive benefits and shared rewards for your group.

Now it's easier than ever to participate online.

Join in 3 Simple Steps

- 1. Sign up - It's easy!**
- 2. Link your club.**
Find your club in the dropdown menu. If it's not listed, select "Other" and enter your club's name, website, and location.
- 3. Claim Your Discount.**
Once registered, you'll receive a \$10 discount code (valid on orders of \$50 or more), that can be combined with our current free shipping promotion. You'll also get an email you can use to invite other members to join in.

Built to Benefit Your Club

Every purchase made by registered members contributes to your club's annual total—unlocking exclusive rewards and recognition through our tiered program.

Sign Up to Receive Your Discount

Email*

First name*

Last name*

Arts Club or Organization*

Please Select

- Toledo Arts Commission
- Toledo Camera Club
- Toledo Federation of Art Societies
- Toledo Photo Arts Club**
- Transparent Watercolor Society of America
- Tri County Arts Council
- Tri-County Arts Council
- Union of Maine Visual Artists
- University of New Mexico Art

Your Local Photo Printing Options: Did You Know?

The University of Toledo's Art Department runs a print center, and they do quality work at a reasonable price. To quote from the web page,

The Art Print Center is a student-staffed printing, mounting, and binding facility housed in the University of Toledo Center for the Visual Arts. We offer services to students, artists, and community businesses and arts organizations.

For more information and to place an order, head over to <https://www.utoledo.edu/jhc/art/spaces/art-print-center/>

Studio Group Meeting

The Studio Group will meet on Wednesday, April 8th, 7 PM to 9 PM. We are going to do some still life and/or product photos. These will be based on some ideas found on Facebook. They kind of twist light to give some interesting shadows.

Please sign up at the club website, and I'll see you there.

John Dillon, esclc@gmail.com



What's Happening at the Botanical Gardens?

2nd Saturdays Open House - April 11 from 11am-4pm is the first one. Additional 2nd Saturdays: June 13; July 11; 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>

April 14 ROC meeting at 6 pm at the Toledo Artists Club

Hidden Treasures Garage Sale will be at the Conference Center April 16, 3pm-6pm and April 17, 9am-3pm. Donations will be welcome, however NO clothes or shoes. For more information, please contact Cindy White at cwphoto63@gmail.com.

May Sale will be May 8-10, 2026, with a Night Market on Friday, May 8, from 4-8 pm. The sale will continue May 9, 10 am to 5 pm, and May 10, 11 am to 4 pm. To volunteer, please use the sign-up link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C044EADA62EA5FAC25-63344059-2026>

Toledo Festival of the Arts will be Saturday, June 27, from 11 am to 6 pm, and on Sunday, June 28, from 11 am to 4 pm.

Jazz in the Garden returns this year with a shortened schedule. Starting Thursday July 9, 2026 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.

For more information and to volunteer to help, .

Monthly Contest Assignments

April 2026: Food Photography

October 2026: Looks like a Haunted House

May 2026: Architecture

November 2026: **Print** - Hometown Highlights

June 2026: Something in your Home

December 2026: By Candlelight

July 2026: Water

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

August 2026: On the Shore

February 2027: Minimalism

September 2026: Trees, Woods or Forest

March 2027: Still Life



Monthly Contest Winners

The March print competition was judged in the clubhouse. There were 12 photos from 6 photographers. The assignment was Rule of Thirds.



“Winter at Olander” by Bob Wadas

Basic - 1st place

Assignment: Rule of Thirds

Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“Feet in the Air” by Quentin Francis-Emonds

Intermediate - 1st Place, Assignment: Rule of Thirds

Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“A Look Through a Keyhole” by Ben Ayling

Advanced, 1st Place, Assignment: Rule of Thirds

Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“John Roebling Bridge,” by Jack Myers

Advanced, 1st Place, Open Category

“To photograph: it is to put on the same line of sight the head, the eye and the heart.”

— Henri Cartier-Bresson

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 - Cindy White - cwphoto63@gmail.com, 419-480-7485

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

Board Members

Jack Myers - jrmyers@roadrunner.com, 419-575-1558

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 - jrmyers@roadrunner.com

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

Membership: Cindy White - cwphoto63@gmail.com

Newsletter: Rick Francis - rick.a.francis@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](#).