

VIEWPOINT | SEPTEMBER 2026

The Newsletter of the Photo Arts Club of Toledo

From the President

Fall is right around the corner, and the Photo Arts Club of Toledo is about to shift into high gear! From capturing beautiful fall colors to preparing for the holiday season, there will be plenty of opportunities to get out, create, and connect.

Please make sure you pay close attention to the newsletter and upcoming emails so you don't miss important dates, events, volunteer opportunities, and club updates.

We are still looking to fill our Secretary position. If you are interested in becoming more involved with the club, please consider stepping into this important role and helping support our continued growth and activities.

Also, please be on the lookout for scam emails that may appear to come from me asking you to purchase gift cards, send money, or make a payment. Please do not respond or send anything. I will never contact an individual club member by email asking them to purchase gift cards or send money on my behalf.

If you receive one of these messages, please report it as spam or phishing and then block the sender. If the club is ever participating in a fundraiser or collecting money for an activity, it will be clearly announced in our official newsletter and club communications—not through a random individual email request.

It's going to be a busy and exciting fall season, and I look forward to everything we have planned!

September Photo Walks

Sept 19th: Glass Harvest 2026

Visit the Toledo Museum of Art to shop and view a beautiful array of hand-blown glass pumpkins during their sixth annual Glass Harvest. Explore the Rita B. Kern Sensory Garden and photograph a spectacular collection of over 450 colorful glass pumpkins of all shapes and sizes. Every piece is hand-made by the team of studio artists in the Glass Pavilion at TMA. Glass blowing demonstrations at 2pm. This is a great opportunity to photograph glass in the great outdoors and action photos of the glass blowers. Bring just yourself and your camera. NO Tripods. Meet at 10:45 am outside the sensory garden. RSVP required.

Keep in mind The Glass Harvest is open to the community.

Sept 26th- Part 1: Public Art Walk- Meet at 5 pm- 8 pm at the Echo Sculpture located in Promenade Park. We will walk along the river and photograph various sculptures and murals.

Roche De Bouef Photowalk

On Sunday, August 2, a group of five intrepid members led by Jack Myers waded halfway across the Maumee River to get to the perfect spot to capture the soon to be restored Roche De Bouef bridge. Using the bridge as our subject, Jack helped us to perfect our long exposure techniques and capture reflections on the water. Thanks to mild water temperatures and tripod legs that served as balance poles, a fun time and some really useful learning was had by all.



Improve Your Photography Classes

Jack Myers will be leading IYP classes starting Thursday September 10th at 7 PM, for three consecutive Thursdays. You will learn how to use your camera in Aperture, Shutter, and Manual mode. We will discuss how to focus, depth of field, stop-action photography and much more in these hands-on classes. These classes are free for members, \$75 for the public. There is a limit of 6 students.

Everyone is paired with a club member who uses the same brand camera to help them along the way. Please register on the event calendar. If you've attended these classes before you are welcome to come again. Members can email Jack at jrm Myers@roadrunner.com if you want to attend. Please include your camera brand and model.

Sunset Shoot: September 19th

Join us for a Sunset Photography Outing on the Grand Rapids Railroad Bridge on Sept. 19th (rain date Sept. 20th). Please [register via the events calendar](#) to secure your spot; the cost is \$10 cash that evening.



Non-members and non-photographers are welcome to join for \$10. We'll board around 7:15 PM, with sunset at 7:38 PM. The railroad carts hold up to 8 people each, with space for 15 participants.

You can bring a tripod, and the carts will be positioned on the bridge for a clear view. Some may choose to arrive early to explore and take photos in the area. We'll be on the bridge for about an hour.

Parking is available on site. Here are the coordinates: 41°24'47.7"N 83°51'51.1"W

Fall Cookout Hosted by Ben and Mary Ann Ayling

This year, the Photo Arts Club of Toledo will celebrate both the coming of Fall and our newest members with a cookout. Hosted by **Ben and Mary Ann Ayling**, the event will be an excuse to get together socially, share good food, and foster both new and old friendships within our club.

The cookout will be at Ben and Mary Ann's home (**3940 Hollyhock LN, Maumee, OH 43537**) on Sunday, September 27, 2026, 1:00-4:00pm. Hamburgers and hotdogs will be provided along with iced tea and lemonade. Each member coming is asked to bring a contribution based on the first letter of your last name:

A-K: Side dish

L-Q: Appetizer or snacks

R-Z: Dessert

You are welcome to bring a plus-1 and need to register your attendance on the Club website calendar no later than Wednesday, September 23rd. The Aylings have a feeding station for birds in their backyard so feel free to bring your camera if you wish. If you own a lawn chair, throw it in your car (just in case) but the Aylings have quite a bit of seating already. This event will occur rain or shine.

So get on the PACT website and register for this new event as we are sure to have a bit of fun together.

Ben & Mary Ann Ayling

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.

October Photo Adventures In The Works

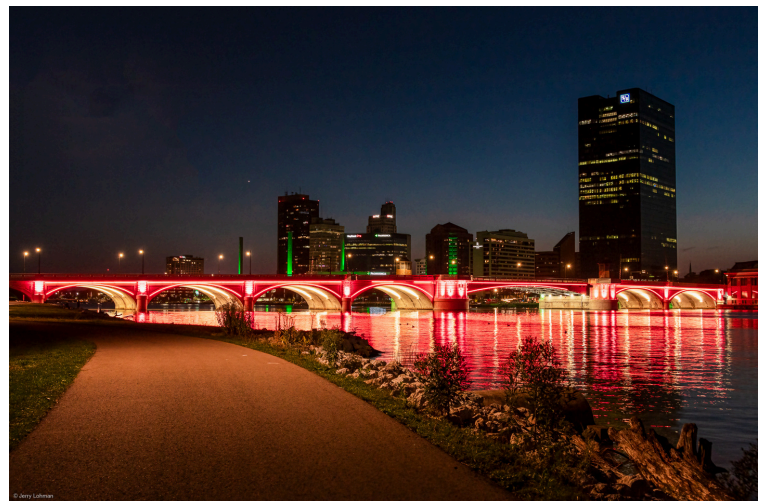
Grand Rapids Canal Photo Walk and Mill. Hopefully the Fall colors will grace us with their presence. *Date TBD*

Historic Woodlawn Cemetery Color Tour. *Date TBD*

Part 2 Public Art Walk- International Park side and the Glass Pavilion area of the river. *Date TBD*

Report on the Downtown Sunset Photo Walk

We met August 20 at the Glass City Metropark to shoot the sunset and the MLK-Cherry Street Bridge initially. We had 7 turn out for the event. The weather couldn't be better – but a few clouds would have made for better sunset compositions. – Jerry Lohman



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

After a summer break, we will continue our exploration of Lightroom on Tuesday, September 22 at 7:00 PM. There have been several enhancements to the masking tools that were released over the summer that we will review. 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.

If you need assistance with a particular challenge that you would like me to research in advance of the meeting, please do not hesitate to reach out anytime.

Chris Boesel, boeselc@gmail.com

Twelve significant photographs in any one year is a good crop. – Ansel Adams

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 jrmymers@roadrunner.com.

Members Out and About

For a limited run podcast jointly sponsored by WGTE radio and the Toledo Metroparks, club member **Chris Boesel** was interviewed by Host Erin Holden. In this episode, Erin explores Chris's background, experiences and inspirations in photography and Chris offers Erin a brief photography lesson at the Toledo Botanical Gardens.

Erin then tries her hand at plein air painting with local artist Aaron Bivins. This episode is focused on finding inspiration to get creative, whether you are an emerging artist, or a seasoned one like Chris and Aaron.

The link to the podcast can be found here:

<https://www.wgte.org/radio/local-podcasts/a-walk-in-the-park-with/artists>



Congratulations are in order for club member **Quentin Francis-Emonds!** His photo "Fluttering" won Kohne Camera's Wall of Frame prize for the August theme of Motion. In the paragraph below he describes how he came up with the unusual shot.



I took this photo last September at the Botanical Gardens. I had just bought a vintage lens (Pentax Takumar 50mm f1.4) and was going to the park every evening to try it out. After many sharp butterfly photos I tried something different. I kept the lens wide open at f1.4, to get the nicest bokeh, and also slowed the shutter speed enough to blur the wings of the butterfly. The shallow depth of field lets the butterfly stand out despite the motion blur.

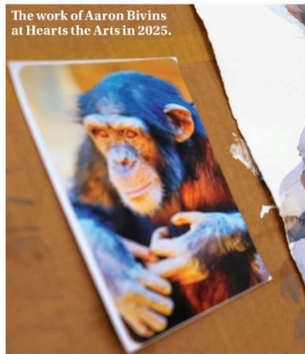
Camera: Fujifilm XT5
Lens: Super-Multi-Coated Takumar 50mm 1.4
Settings: f1.4; 1/180s; ISO 125

Spotlight on Photo Arts Member Kelly Chalfant

THE BLADE: TOLEDO, OHIO • THURSDAY, AUGUST 13, 2026

toledoBlade.com

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ALL TOGETHER



Kelly Chalfant, a local photographer, at Side Cut Metropark in Maumee. Chalfant will be showcasing her work at the Hearts the Arts in downtown Perrysburg this year.

Local artists celebrate community ahead of Perrysburg Hearts the Arts

Excerpted from article by Lillian King, the Toledo Blade:

The personal connection draws photographer Kelly Chalfant to art festivals. A Perrysburg resident of nearly 26 years, this is Chalfant's second time exhibiting at Heart of the Arts. "Being able to do a festival in your backyard and share your work with your neighbors is awesome," Chalfant said.

For Chalfant, the most rewarding part of sharing her photography is the moment when someone connects with her work. "Everybody's in a rush and in a hurry, and they can glance at your pieces, but if somebody pauses and takes a look and it maybe makes them smile or they connect with it in some way, like it reminds them of a great family trip that they took, or a favorite place that they've been, that really brings me joy."

Where some artists focus on reproducing a limited range of tried and true products, Chalfant continues experimenting with new techniques like intentional camera movement photography, which creates images with an abstract, watercolor-like quality through long exposure time.

Behind The Shot: Into the Mist by Kathy Fisher

It was the last day of summer vacation, and my husband and I decided to make a last-minute day trip to Lake Michigan for some hiking. We've explored most of the coastline in past, but for this trip we sought out the shortest drive from Toledo and settled on Warren Dunes State Park. It was late August, when the nights are getting cooler and mist tends to form daily over any body of water that has warmed over the summer months.

We arrived at Lake Michigan mid-morning on a picture-perfect day and set out on a 5-mile loop that took us through forested sand dunes, where I photographed dunes and forest against the brilliant blue sky. When the trail eventually looped us back to the shore around noon, the fog was rolling in and the last mile of our hike headed south along the shoreline.

I have a Nikon Z50 crop-sensor, mirrorless camera for hiking because it's light and compact even with a couple of lenses. For this photo I used a 16-50mm lens and took numerous pictures of the shore heading south, trying to capture a wave rolling in at just the right spot to make the composition interesting. The challenge with a crop sensor camera is lowered resolution, so I compensate by dropping the ISO as much as possible (100 for this shot) and I think very hard about composing on site to minimize the need for further cropping later. The fog played in my favor since I could focus at a closer point to keep the gravel and sand in sharp focus and didn't need as large a depth of field since the mist blurred the further points anyway. For the final shot I was zoomed out to 24mm (equates to 36mm on a full frame camera) with f7.1 at 1/400s (I was shooting handheld). I waited until the man in the photo reached a point far enough in the distance to enhance the composition. I did very little to the photo before submitting to the August competition. I deepened the colors a little, cropped slightly in from the right and applied a little extra sharpening to create the final version.

Writing this up reminded me this is the perfect time of year to visit lakes, rivers and ponds. The cooler mornings and warmer water are ideal mist-forming conditions for capturing moody images.



A Snapshot of Photographic History

In 1932 a small collection of photographers on the west coast formed Group f/64. The eleven photographers included Ansel Adams, Imogen Cunningham, John Paul Edwards, Preston Holder, Consuelo Kanaga, Alma Lavenson, Sonya Noskowiak, Henry Swift, Willard Van Dyke, Brett Weston, and Edward Weston. The group's purpose was to exhibit and promote a new direction in west coast photography, moving away from the historical fine arts treatment of a photograph.

The name Group f/64 referred to the smallest aperture available in large-format view cameras at the time and it signaled the group's conviction that photographs should celebrate the medium's unrivaled capacity to present the world "as it is."

Their drive was to change the role of the artist from printmaker to selector. The group championed the photographer's choice of form and his or her framing of the subject that made the picture. The use of a view camera enabled the photographer to preview his scene on the ground glass (a flat pane of glass on the camera that reflected the scene from the point of view of the lens), the view camera's equivalent of the viewfinder in the 35mm single-lens reflex camera, before he snapped the shutter and developed the print, and the extensive employment of this device was a hallmark of Group f/64.

The photographers' precision for transcribing the exact features of what was before the camera pulled them together and rendered the emotional experience of form that was the primary feature of their photographic art.

(Information from the Metropolitan's "[Timeline of Art History-Group f/64](#)")



The Golden Gate Before the Bridge
Ansel Adams

What's Happening at the Botanical Gardens?

2nd Saturdays Open House - 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>

September - ROC meeting at 6 pm at the Toledo Artists Club.

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

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

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

February 2027: Minimalism

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



Monthly Contest Winners

The August competition assignment was “On the Shore.” Twenty photographers submitted a total of forty-two photos. There were thirty-eight “On the Shore” photos and fourteen Open category photos submitted. Twelve members participated in judging.

The September contest assignment is “Trees, Woods or Forest, young, old or dead”



“Into the Mist” by Kathy Fisher

Intermediate - 1st place
Assignment: On the Shore

Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“Great End of the Day” by Neeru Biyani

Intermediate - 2nd Place
Assignment: On the Shore

Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“Iconic Rocky Shore” by Jamie Van Natta

Intermediate - 3rd Place
Assignment: On the Shore

Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“Lazy Beach Sunset” by Jamie Van Natta

Intermediate - 3rd Place
Assignment: On the Shore

Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“Sunset, Kelleys Island” by Rick Francis

Advanced - 1st Place
Assignment: On the Shore

Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“San Diego Pier” by Jack Myers

Advanced - 2nd Place
Assignment: On the Shore

Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“Bahamas, Low Tide” by Rick Francis

Advanced - 3rd Place
Assignment: On the Shore

Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“Look at the Babies” by Susan Shull

Basic - 1st Place
Open Category

Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“Land Sky and Water” by Susan Shull

Basic - 2nd Place
Open Category

Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“Pretty Bird” by Susan Shull

Basic - 3rd Place
Open Category

Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“Bombs Bursting in Air” by Isaiah Miller

Intermediate - 1st Place
Open Category

Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“An Evening in National Harbor” by Isaiah Miller

Intermediate - 2nd Place
Open Category

Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



© Kathryn
Nelson

“Redstart My Heart” by Kathryn Nelson

Intermediate - 3rd Place
Open Category

Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“Roche de Boeuf Bridge” by Ben Anderson

Advanced - 1st Place
Open Category

Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“Beautiful Monarch” by Jack Myers

Advanced - 2nd Place
Open Category

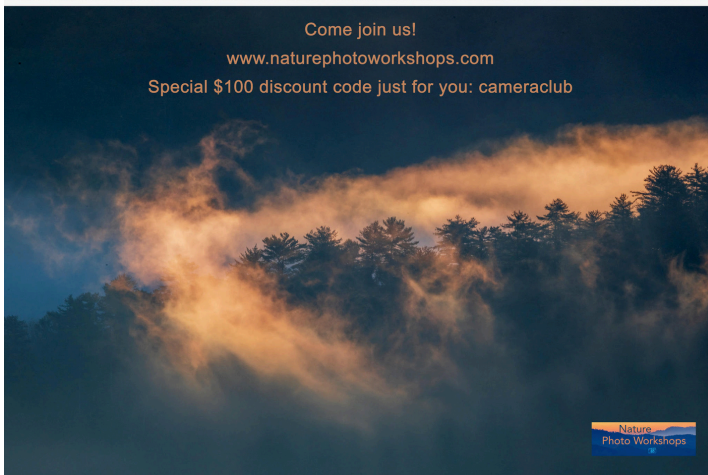
Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“Brioche” by Jim Hagan

Advanced - 3rd Place
Open Category

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



This special offer to our membership has been extended and is now valid through **September 7th at:**

<https://www.naturephotoworkshops.com/>

A Testimonial

Ben and Tom's Photo Workshop in Tennessee is a fantastic experience combining practical training with creative inspiration. The workshop takes place in some of the most stunning spots in the Great Smoky Mountains. These locations are perfect for capturing amazing photos.

Ben and Tom are experienced photographers who provide hands-on guidance that's both fun and super helpful.

This workshop covers everything from camera techniques to editing skills. But it's not just about the technical stuff; it also explores the artistic side of photography. There's a great sense of community, thanks to group activities and social events where participants can share their passion for photography. The friendly atmosphere encourages creativity and personal growth. Ben and Tom's Photo Workshop is not just educational; it helps you get more interested in using your camera and trying new things.

Haley MacRitchie

Upcoming Events and Meetings

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

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

September 10, 17 and 24, Thursdays, 7:00 PM: IYP Class

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

Sept 19-20, 11:00 AM - 5:00 PM: Glass Harvest 2026 at the Toledo Museum of Art

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

Sept 26, 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM: Part 1 Public Art Walk- Meet at 5 pm- 8 pm at the Echo Sculpture located in Promenade Park

September 27, Sunday, 1:00 PM-4:00 PM: Cookout at Ben and Mary Ann Ayling's Home

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

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

John Dillon is working up a class to be held over several weeks. The proposed dates will be announced, but it is expected to start in October.

“To photograph is to confer importance. There is probably no subject that cannot be beautified; moreover, there is no way to suppress the tendency inherent in all photographs to accord value to their subjects.”

— 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 - boeselc@gmail.com

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