



Petersburg Camera Club, Inc.

# THE SHUTTERBUG

April 2025

Volume 17, Issue 4

Petersburg, Virginia

## April Photo Challenge Winners

### **“Transport”**



**1<sup>st</sup> Place**



Larry Tipton  
**“Fishy School Bus”**

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Tom Saunders **“Transport”**



**2nd Place  
[tie]**

Tatiana Hoosack **“Horse Girl “**



**2nd Place  
[tie]**

## MISSION

- To promote the art of photography as a hobby in a multicultural, congenial atmosphere.
- To promote educational experiences in the pursuit of excellence in photography.
- To promote public interest in and respect for fine photography.

## OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## Shutterbug Editor

Ken Cox [klcox1@yahoo.com](mailto:klcox1@yahoo.com)

**FACEBOOK GROUP PAGE** Check out our Club on Facebook. Many of our members continue to post great photos, good information and interesting links.



[www.facebook.com/groups/cccccinc](https://www.facebook.com/groups/cccccinc)

## April 2025 Treasurer's Report

Cockade City Camera Club held its regular monthly meeting on April 24, 2025. The club's financial transactions during the month of April 2025 are summarized as follows:

### Receipts

a. Dues	= \$ 0.00
b. Donations	= \$ 8.00
	<b>+ \$ 8.00</b>

### Disbursements

a. Rent	= \$ 50.00
	<b>- \$ 50.00</b>

Dick Menendez, Treasurer

**PayPal links – the Club is now using PayPal to offer members the means of both renewing their membership for 2025 and for separate donations.**

- Here is the link for starting [or renewing] your [membership](#).
- This is the link for making [separate donations](#) to the Club.

*"The secret of photography is the camera takes on the character and personality of the handler." - Walker Evans*

*"The camera is a remarkable instrument. Saturate yourself with your subject and the camera will all but take you by the hand." - Margaret Bourke-White*



## The May 2025 Monthly Photo Challenge “Flowers”

Even though we do our topic by a random selection, it is certainly appropriate that the topic for May is **Flowers**. It is the perfect time to go out and make an image of something growing and announcing that fit between the first greens of Spring and the full growth that comes with the arrival of Summer. There should be some many opportunities that the difficult part might not be finding what to photograph, but rather to make the hard choice from among all the images you have captured!



All photos  
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### Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2025 at 6:30 pm. We will meet at the Petersburg Area Art League, 7 E. Old Street, Petersburg.

## April Meeting Summary

The meeting was called to order at 6:45 by Larry Tipton with 21 people in attendance.

First, we discussed our Club's annual photo contest hosted by PAAL. It is again going to be called **Lasting Impressions** and will open on Friday, August 15, 2025 as part of the Friday for the Arts in Old Towne. [See **page 12** for more details and information.]

This was followed by a quick reminder that the Club's new website is in full operation, so try it out. You can now find us at:

[PetersburgCameraClub.org](https://PetersburgCameraClub.org)

Our Monthly Presentation was made by Ken Newman, who gave us a great program on night sky photography. [His presentation was posted on May 1<sup>st</sup> to the Club's Facebook page.]

A very short thumbnail explanation of his presentation: Ken did emphasize that all his pictures are all single exposure, manual focus, zooming as required, auto white balance, RAW files, and a sturdy tripod. The pictures are all made in manual mode and stabilization is turned off. Camera adjustments vary considerably between the moon, planets and constellations.

Now we just need a night with fewer clouds. Or maybe some night shots of clouds could be interesting.

We then took time to review and vote on the entries in this month's Photo Challenge. The topic was **Insects**. When the counting was done the winners were: 1st – Larry Tipton; 2<sup>nd</sup> [tie] – Tom Saunders and Tatiana Hoosack. [Look for their photos on the cover and page 2]. Then we selected the topic for the May Photo Challenge contest: **Flowers**. [See the details on page 4.

[continued on page 5]

## April Meeting Summary [continued]

Next, we showed the Miscellaneous Photos submitted this month. For this month images came from Kyle Witten, John A. Rooney, Jr., Ken Cox, Ray Meade, John K. Rooney, Hector Rivera, Crystal Phelps, James Hampton-Snow, Pablo Brown, Tom Saunders, Tatiana Hoosack, Larry Tipton, and Jen Lowery. [See their photos on pages 6-11].

A reminder to new or returning members:

- All miscellaneous photos (**3 max**) need to be submitted no later than Wednesday, the day before the meeting in order to allow them to be downloaded into our Google file drive. Please submit your photos to: [cockadecitycameraclub@gmail.com](mailto:cockadecitycameraclub@gmail.com)
- Monthly Photo Challenge entries must be taken after the new photo topic was chosen and the next meeting. They should not come from your archives.

The meeting was then adjourned.

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## Miscellaneous Photography Corner

by Ken Cox

### The “Rules” of Photo Composition

How many articles have you read or videos have you seen that refer to the Rules of Photo Composition? One of the first hits I got back from a Google search gave me an article on 18 Composition Rules! But once you read past the catchy headlines, almost every single article posted a disclaimer that there are no real rules in composition and that all of the “rules” should really be called “guidelines” instead.

They are there to provide guidance, but if you need to break them you should do so without regret.

For all the good that rules do in our world, they have the ugly side-effect of stifling freedom and individual creativity. And what is photography but a way to express creativity and artistic freedom? There shouldn't be any “rules”!

And to further confuse the new [and even the experienced] photographer, how about this list of [28 Composition Techniques](#)? #1. Rule of Thirds; #2. Centered Composition and Symmetry; #3. Foreground Interest and Depth; #4. Frame Within the Frame; #5. Leading Lines; #6. Diagonals and Triangles; #7. Patterns and Textures; #8. Break the Pattern; #9. Rule of Odds; #10. Fill the Frame; #11. Leave Negative Space; #12. Simplicity and Minimalism; #13. Use Black and White; #14. Isolate the Subject; #15. Shoot from Below; #16. Shoot from Above; #17. Look for Particular Color Combinations; #18. Rule of Space; #19. Left to Right Rule; #20. Balance Elements in the Scene; #21. Juxtaposition; #22. Golden Triangles; #23. Golden Ratio; #24. Let the Background Give Context to the Subject; #25. Let the Eye Wander Around the Frame; #26. Use Layers in the Frame; #27. Add Human Interest; #28. Wait for the “Decisive Moment”. I was familiar with most of them, but have to admit that even within the list there seem to be contradictions – how about #10 and #11? Or #15 and #16?

I have included the link to the article if you want to look at the original list with the explanations for each of the entries. The best way to grow as a photographer is to shoot often. And while doing so, don't get bogged down by the “rules” of composition. Instead, use them as guidelines. Experiment with your photography, and allow yourself the freedom to break those “rules” sometimes. If you do this, you will inevitably learn to see more creatively. And one last thing, don't forget the most important rule in photography. That is, to have fun!



**Members' Gallery** - a sampling of photos submitted by Club members from the past month.



(Photos by Kyle Witten)



(Photos by John A. Rooney, Jr.)



Members' Gallery [continued]



(Photos by Ken Cox)



(Photos by Raymond Meade)





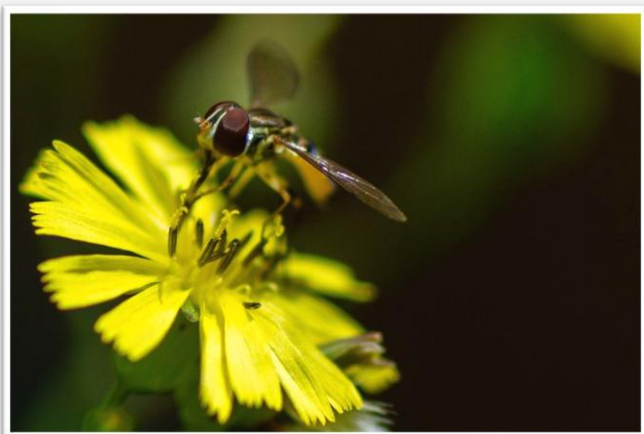
**Members' Gallery** [continued]



(Photos by John K. Rooney)



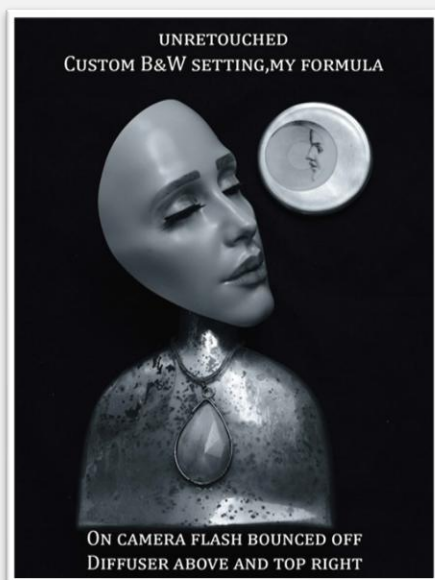
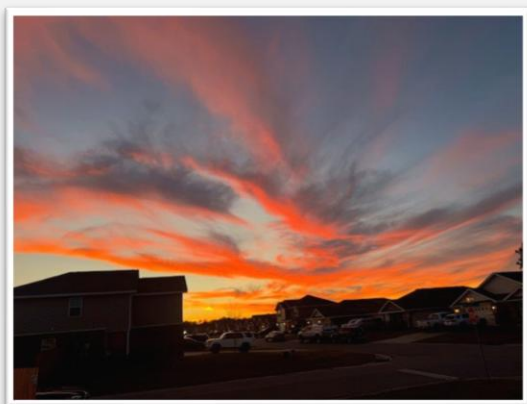
(Photos by Hector Rivera)





Members' Gallery [continued]

(Photos by Crystal Phelps)



(Photos by James Hampton-Snow)

Members' Gallery [continued]



(Photos by Pablo Brown)

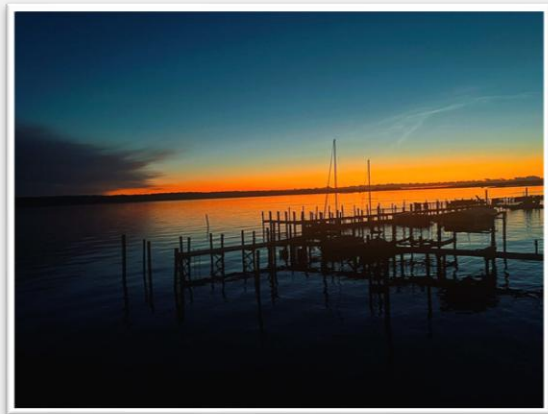


(Photos by Tom Saunders)

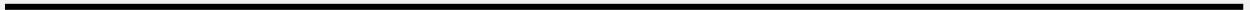




**Members' Gallery** [continued]



(Photos by Jen Lowery)





**PETERSBURG CAMERA CLUB**  
**“LASTING IMPRESSIONS” PHOTOGRAPHY**  
**EXHIBIT AND CONTEST - 2025**

Rules for the Contest:

- A. Each member may submit up to three [3] photos.
- B. Photos must be mounted so they will not bend and have a method of hanging. Framing is optional.
- C. Photos may be any topic, size, color or black and white, and may have been taken at any time.
- D. No name or watermark may be shown on the photograph.
- E. The entries will be judged and First, Second, and Third place and two Honorable Mentions will be awarded winning ribbons in each of the three categories [**People, Places or Things**].
- F. On the back of each photo the photographer will include: their name, title of the photo [if there is one], and price of the photo [if for sale]. Otherwise clearly mark the photo as **NFS (Not For Sale)**
- G. **NOTE: If you sell a photograph during the show, PAAL will take a 30% commission fee.**
- H. Dates and times the photos may be delivered to PAAL will be identified as we approach the actual show dates.

Only paid-up Club members will be eligible to submit photos. It is not too late to become a member of the Club. Membership fees are \$25 for a single person and \$35 for a family. Contact Ken Cox at - [klcox1@yahoo.com](mailto:klcox1@yahoo.com) for additional membership information.