Urban Wildlife Photo Club

April 2022 Newsletter
Next Membership Meeting: April 11, 2022
Online meeting at 6:45 PM
SEE BELOW FOR MEETING LINK INFORMATION

Club Contact Information

Address: COUWPC
PO Box 270501
Louisville, CO 80027-0501
Email: uwpc@comcast.net   Website http://www.couwpc.com

A link for the online meeting will be sent out a few days before the meeting and again as a reminder about an hour before the meeting.

Annual Dues were "due" in March. We are holding are dues at $20 for a person, couple or family. Please send your check to the P O Box address shown above. Thanks to those who have already send them in.

April Program: As many of you know Fred is on the mend from surgery. He was unable to arrange for an April Program, so I volunteered to do one. The program will be **Zoo, Aquarium and Aviary Photography.**
In most major cities there is a place where animals abound, and we can photograph them any time of the year. Zoos, aquariums, wildlife sanctuaries and aviaries offer the photographer a variety of subjects but with caveats. These venues have, in the past, been focused on providing visitors the chance to see creatures normally seen only in exotic and difficult to reach places. Thankfully, the mission has changed and most of them are now working to ensure species survival and use their animals as ambassadors to teach as well as entertain. Enclosures have evolved from concrete cages to more animal friendly habitats. Photography in these places is rewarding but still comes with many challenges. This program will provide insight into the techniques to deal with backgrounds, barriers and other distractions and still come away with great images.

MEMBER MONTHLY IMAGE SUBMISSION

Members and first-time guests are encouraged to submit images for a gentle critique. We are not a competitive club, but we do strive to help our members learn and improve their photographic skills. Guidelines are below.

We have both open and theme image categories:
March Critique and Theme images due by April 4th

Send to: uwpcimages@comcast.net
•April Theme – Sunsets or sunrises
•May Theme - Spring

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS FOR IMAGE LABELING, ESPECIALLY THE USE OF SPECIAL CHARACTERS (NO @) AND NAMING NEEDS. If I get really busy, I may not be able to accept images that don't follow these "rules."

PLEASE ADHERE TO THE DATE & SIZE REQUESTED -1MB or less
Two categories at each meeting - THEMED AND OPEN
•Maximum of 4 images total and no more than one themed image
•Email files one week before the scheduled meeting to uwpcimages@comcast.net   Please use this one!
•Send themed category images in an email titled 'themed images'
•Send open category images in an email titled 'critique images'
•If your image is selected to appear on the club website, the website caption will be derived from the file name. **Be sure that your name and the image title as you would like them to appear on the website are included in the file name.** Use only letters (a-z and A-Z), numerals (0-9), dashes (-), underscores (_), and the single dot before ".jpg" in file names. Avoid using blanks. Use dashes (-) underscores (_) and capitalization to indicate word boundaries (e.g. Bob_Dean-Trees_In_Snow.jpg or BobDean-TreesInSnow.jpg). It is acceptable to include other information that identifies the image in file names, but you risk the possibility that this information will be misinterpreted by the webmaster. Although it's unlikely, the image BobDean_TreesInSnow_27583.jpg might end up on the website with the title "Trees in Snow 27853."

MEMBER MONTHLY IMAGE SUBMISSION CONT'D

OPTIONAL Descriptive information for each *critique image* should be as follows:

Exposure data should, for example, include f/stop, shutter speed, ISO, any exposure compensation, and any filter information. Post processing enhancements should include only those things beyond simply cropping, sharpening, noise reduction, etc. such as HDR, panorama work, color enhancements, exposure changes, etc. If you can put the image data (if you choose to include it) **as text** in the body of the email as opposed to an attached word or excel file, it would be appreciated! Makes life easier if everyone does the same thing.

Sample table for exposure details

IMAGE	IMAGE TITLE	SPECIES	LOCATION	CAMERA	LENS	EXPOSURE DATA	POST PROCESSING ENHANCEMENTS
Critique 1							
Critique 2							
Critique 3							

Please don't use an @ in the exposure information as when I copy it into the slide presentation, the computer sees it as an email address, and I need to retype rather than copy.

PHOTO CONTESTS

Some thoughts on Photo Contests:

Whenever you think about entering a photo contest you should very carefully read the Ts and Cs. I know that the legalese can be daunting but there are a lot of contests out there that are a "rights grab." Make sure that the ones you enter specifically lay out the image ownership agreement. Whenever you send in images to a contest you are entering into a contract. You really should consider only those contests that have very limited usage of your photos and state in their rules that YOU retain full ownership of the image. When you read the fine print on image usage, watch out for those contests that demand the right to use all your entries for their own purposes, not just the winners.

BBC Wildlife Magazine Monthly Photo on-going Contest Information at:
http://www.discoverwildlife.com/your-photos/photo-contest

Contest Information Website;
If you'd like a resource that has just about all the contests out there, take a look at Photo Contest Insider at
https://www.photocontestinsider.com/contest/all-themes/

Kudos

If anyone has an image published, places in a contest or gets any kind of recognition for their work, please let us know and we'll get it into the newsletter. Also, if you are doing something for the wildlife in our state shoot me an email. Please do use **email**: uwpc@comcast.net to alert us. (If you tell me verbally at the online meeting or on the phone, I can almost assure you that I'll forget!)

Announcements and Notes

The other website!

Contributions to oururbanwildlife.org have been stagnant for a few months. At this point, we don't need any administrative help with the site, but we do need contributions. Here are some of the ways that folks could help:

- Contributing photos
- Contributing blog posts (Curtis *might* edit posts, but only lightly for clarity)
- Links to blogs or websites.
- Soliciting others to write blog posts – any friend, acquaintance, or family member with special interest or knowledge of wildlife would be welcome
- Contributing articles
- Finding articles that we can reprint and getting permission to do so.
- Promoting the site to other clubs. I've found that promoting the site in person has been more effective than other methods.
- Promoting the site on social media. We already have a Facebook page set up for it and could add folks as admins to that page. We can work together to set up Twitter or other social media accounts.
- Contacting "celebrity" photographers for contributions – written or photographic. These folks could be known as photographers – such as John Fielder – or known for other work (journalism, politics, business, etc.) with an interest in photography – such as Tom Green on 9 News.

Please consider doing something to help this project along! If you have questions, contributions or ideas and are not sure what to do, contact me at uwpc@comcast.net or Curtis Johnson at curtis.e.johnson@comcast.net

Announcements and Notes

Spring Field Trip

We're in the final planning stages for our Spring field trip. The date is fixed for May 15th to photograph the total lunar eclipse.

We're working on possible locations as the eclipse starts pretty close to moon rise, so we need a place with a clear view of the southeast horizon. The eclipse will be over by midnight so (at least for night sky photography) it will be an "early" evening. Several folks have expressed interest so if you wish to join them, please send me an email at uwpc@comcast.net. As with our meteor shower field trip last year, I'll be providing assistance on getting great images before and during the trip. The first set of tips went out to the folks who were "on the list."

Update on a new venue for in-person meetings

Thanks to Susan Jenkins and Barbara Berryman for their recent help in trying to find a new location. The desire is to stay in the Park Hill area near the Museum and Montview Pres. We have found a couple of churches in the area that look promising. Due to vacations and some staff changes, we are still working the issues. HOPEFULLY I'll have some news at the April meeting.

Announcements and Notes

Writers Wanted for our newsletter

We are ALWAYS looking for material to put in the newsletter and on the Urban Wildlife website. If you want to be "published," feel free to write (and add images if you want) on any subject about which you think the members would like to read. Don't worry about grammar or style, we'll do a bit of editing if you'd like. Send them to uwpc@comcast.net

Articles

Are You Ready to Shoot in Manual? By Bob Dean

I will be dating myself in remembering way back to film days when shooting in manual mode meant selecting a film with a particular ISO (or -shudder- ASA) rating and then picking an f stop and shutter speed based on the Sunny 16 rule*. Today we have a great digital tool that allows us to pick an f stop to give the depth of field we want and a shutter speed to control blur for the condition in which we're shooting. Then let the camera set the ISO.

It took me a while to get on the Auto ISO band wagon but now I really like it.

Auto ISO allows the photographer to pick an f stop and shutter speed to match the situation. The camera then selects an ISO to allow proper exposure. Most new camera bodies even allow for setting a maximum ISO so the noise or grain of the exposure can be controlled. With the maximum ISO set you may need to adjust f stop or shutter speed in those situations where light is very limited in order to get a proper exposure. It may also be necessary to use exposure compensation when the camera's computer over or under exposes the image when trying to generate that elusive "midtone."

How to set up your camera for Auto ISO? Rule number one for Auto ISO - RTM - read the manual to find out how to use Auto ISO on your particular camera model. For Canon bodies it is as simple as set the mode dial to M, setting the ISO to A (just "below" the lowest ISO speed) then use the appropriate dials and wheels to select aperture and shutter speed when shooting.

Is Auto ISO for every situation? Not really. I still like aperture priority for many situations like landscapes, shutter priority for birds in flight and even program mode for quick shots when using flash as the main light source.

(* proper exposure with f16 and shutter speed 1/ISO in bright sun)