



Urban Wildlife Photo Club

July 2023 Newsletter

Next Membership Meeting: **July 10th, 2023**

Online and In-Person meeting at 7:00 PM

**SEE PAGE 2 FOR MORE MEETING
INFORMATION**

Club Contact Information

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

A Zoom link for the online meeting will be sent out a few days before the meeting and again as a reminder a few hours before the meeting.

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July Program

Tom Boll will present “15 Ways to Improve Your Photography”

Looking for tips to improve your photography?
Feeling like you are in a creative rut?

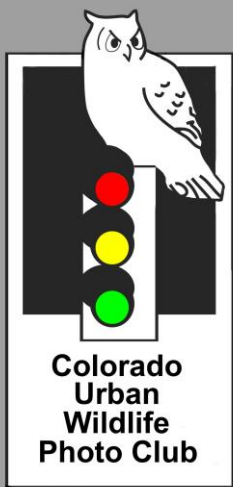
Join Tom for this presentation to be inspired and learn new approaches to your photography. During the program, Tom will discuss creative strategies and new techniques to help improve your image making. He will discuss alternative compositions, creative lighting, maximizing acuity and evoking emotion in your landscape. Tom will also look at how technology is opening new creative techniques in-camera. Tom’s passion and energy for photography is contagious. Get ready for an entertaining and informative discussion on improving your photography.



Meeting Location:

We will meet at Park Hill United Methodist Church at Montview and Glencoe.

Parking is off Glencoe, north of the church. Enter through the double doors on the north side of the church. If no one is there, please do not ring the doorbell as that alerts several people from the church on their mobile phones. Text or call (303) 807-7678 or (303) 589-5414 and someone will come down and let you in.



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:
May Critique and Theme images due by **July 3rd**

Send to: uwpcimages@comcast.net

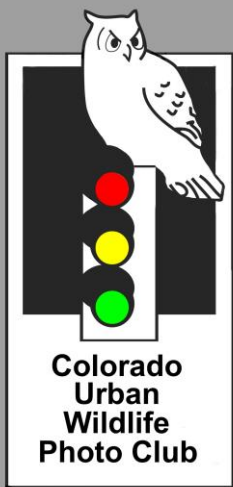
- July Theme - Acts of God, such as thunderstorms, rainbows, lightning (be careful!), etc.
- August Theme - Farm life

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.





We have a great feature our websites and, in the newsletter: “Location Temptation”

We introduced this feature a while back with hopes that we would get submissions from our members. This is a great opportunity to share your favorite relatively local photo spot. Check out the website for an example:

<https://oururbanwildlife.org/san-luis-valley/>

What we are looking for in a submission is open but should include both photographic and logistical information (lodging, food, road issues, sensitive areas, etc.). If you'd like, we can help edit the article so just send in notes, a list of ideas, or a rough draft.

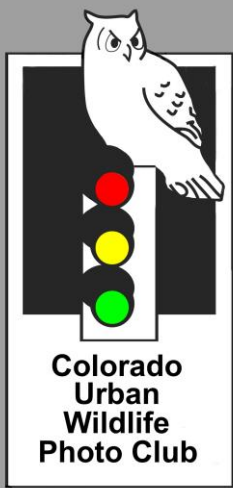
Relatively local is also a bit open. Denver metro is always good, a spot within a few hours drive is also fine. The goal is to share spots that have nice photo ops that are accessible and economical! We've received a couple but have room for lots more.

Send them to me at uwpc@comcast.net and let me know if you'd like some editing. I'll make sure the information goes to the web guys and the newsletter.

Bob Stocker is in the process of adding a similar feature to the club website <http://couwpc.com/>

Come on folks – let's get behind this project 😊

The Other Website!



At the January 18th membership general meeting we had a side conversation of what is “appropriate” for this website. We want everyone to know that “urban” does not have to only within developed areas. Any image, blog, article or other contributions that relate to a place near a town or city (not necessarily in Colorado) is fair game!

Contributions to oururbanwildlife.org have been stagnant for a few months. We 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.
- 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

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/>

Announcements and Notes

Field Trip to Barr Lake and Bird Banding

Our field trip to Barr lake for bird banding and to check out the wildlife has run into a snag or two. The bird banding part has pretty much crashed and burned due to some rather curious issues with Bird Conservancy of the Rockies ability to communicate within.

The second part, touring the Park on carts is up in the air due to similar issues with the Park volunteer management. We are still hoping for a September 23rd outing, but we'll see.

Tom Loucks has put in many hours of effort to make this trip happen and has experienced very frustrating situations, give him a pat on the back when you see him!





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!)

The recently published Second Edition of *Birding Colorado* by Hugh Kingery has a cover photo by Wendy Shattil. Several of Wendy Shattil and Bob Rozinski's photos are also in the body of the book. In addition, several photos by Bob and Nancy Stocker are scattered throughout the text.