



# Urban Wildlife Photo Club

September 2021 Newsletter

Next Membership Meeting: **September 13, 2021**

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](mailto: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.

## **September Program: Eli Vega speaking on In Camera Creativity**

*Eli Vega, author of Right Brain Photography (Be an artist first), now in its fourth edition, has a few tricks up his sleeve. He will share those with us at our September meeting. We spend so much time with photo editing software that we forget how to use our cameras and lenses anymore! Eli will talk about various in-camera and lens techniques he uses to create abstracts, Impressionism, special effects, Surrealism, and simply dynamic images, without relying on software applications.*

*Eli is known to say, "The best photography is found where technical know-how and creative aesthetics meet," and "I don't see with my eyes. I see with my imagination."*

Check out his fascinating life story and photographic philosophy at:  
<http://www.elivega.net/story-of-eli-vega-photographer.html>



Here are some of Eli's images. There are many more on his website: <http://www.elivega.net/>





## 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:  
August Critique and Theme images due by September 6th.

Send to: [uwpcimages@comcast.net](mailto:uwpcimages@comcast.net)

- September Theme – Shore Birds
- October theme - Motion

**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](mailto: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.

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.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NOTES

### Writers Wanted

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](mailto:uwpc@comcast.net) and enter it on the website:  
<http://oururbanwildlife.org/>



### 2021 Meeting Plans:

Update: Thanks to the folks who sent in ideas for a location. I did some checking and found out that just about all the places that might work are still holding off on setting up schedules for groups. With the Delta variant raging, it might be a while before we can find a home!

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NOTES



Hey folks, please consider contributing to [Our Urban Wildlife](#). Submissions did increase since I sent information to other clubs, but since then they have slowed!

### **The other website!**

Contributions to [oururbanwildlife.org](http://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](mailto:uwpc@comcast.net) or Curtis Johnson at [curtis.e.johnson@comcast.net](mailto:curtis.e.johnson@comcast.net)



## Field trip report:

Our recent field trip was a lot of fun. The Great Sand Dunes National Park afforded a wonderful place to photograph the Milky Way Galactic Center during a nighttime shoot (dusk to about 1:30 AM). The Perseid meteor shower was fun, but we only got a few meteor shots, some clouds moved in around Midnight and obscured much of the sky for quite a while.

Daytime photo ops included some of the old buildings in the Valley, one of the Buddhist Stupas near Crestone, Ft Garland Historic site and the incredible field of Sunflowers near the Dunes.

We also enjoyed a group dinner at Dos Hermanas restaurant in Antonito (my favorite Mexican restaurant in the entire San Luis Valley).





## 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](mailto: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!)

Hey folks: I'd love to highlight your achievements here!





## Articles:

Just think – your article could be here!

## 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/>