

Urban Wildlife Photo Club

September 2024 Newsletter

Next Membership Meeting: **September 9th, 2024**

Online only 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 is on Page 2 and will be sent again as a reminder a few hours before the meeting. I also sent an invitation with the link today August 21st.

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September Program

Our speaker in September will be Eli Vega via Zoom.

Eli Vega, who studied art in college, will share the 7 Principles of Composition he has used for years. As Eli says, "If you want great images, have an interesting subject, unique lighting, and good composition."

September Meeting Link:

Zoom Link:

Please DO NOT sign in before 6:45 PM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82242379320?pwd=RRMDKyXs8sCsGDflbPPPNsaGpdSyci.1>

Meeting ID: 822 4237 9320

Passcode: 283631

December Program

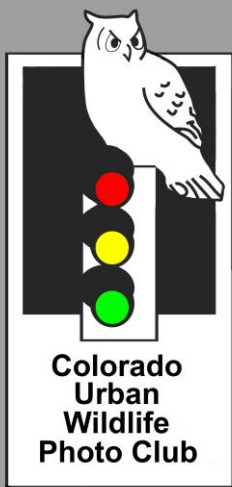
Once again, this December we'd like to feature member images from 2024 (or from when ever). We're looking for 7 to 8 members willing to give a short 10-minute program using images from their adventures. Please let me know if you'd like to do this. Send me an email with a very short description of your program! uwpc@comcast.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:
September Critique and Theme images due by Sept. 2nd
Send to: uwpcimages@comcast.net

- September Theme: Alpine Critters
- October Theme: Into the Forest



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 27583."

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.

Any Contests I should include??

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/>



Field Trips

We have scheduled more 2024 field trips. Tom Loucks has done a great job setting up these trips. THANKS Tom!



- Field Trip to Duraplaq in Longmont after some shooting for fall color at Walden/Sawhill ponds in Boulder. Date is Oct 17th.
- Field Trip to Cumbres and Toltec Scenic RR
 - ✓ October 1st
 - ✓ 10:00 AM Train to Chama from Antonito
 - ✓ Dinner afterwards in Antonito at Dos Hermanas Mexican Restaurant.
 - ✓ You will need to make your own train and lodging reservations ASAP.
 - ✓ Train reservations: <https://cumbrestoltec.com/schedule/>
 - ✓ Several of us had already booked seats in the Deluxe car (Parlor was already full!). Coach should be available if Deluxe is full but HURRY!
 - ✓ Some of us have already booked rooms at the Hampton in Alamosa as well.

Adventures on a Tippy Stool

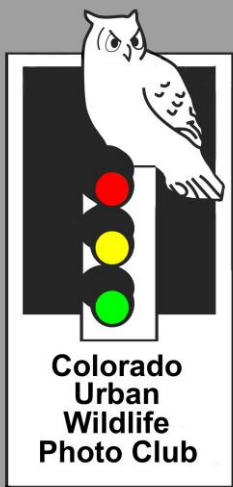
By Bob Stocker

I use a collapsible, three-legged stool while photographing insects. Every once in a while, I don't sit on it carefully, and the stool collapses leaving me sprawled out on the ground. This year I made it to early August before that happened. I had stopped to photograph bees and flies on small flowers next to a path through our backyard garden. The stool tipped when I sat on it, and I fell over backwards landing in the path. When I had collected myself, I glanced to the opposite side of the path from the insects I had been planning to photograph. Eli Vega's mantra, "I see something," came to mind. This is what I saw:



With the help of iNaturalist.org, I've identified it as an Indian Blanket seedhead.





I did eventually manage to get back on my stool to photograph some of the bees and flies on the small flowers. I got this photo of a Banded Bee Fly,



but to my eye it's not nearly as interesting as the Indian Blanket that I almost missed.