

Lens Lines Newsletter

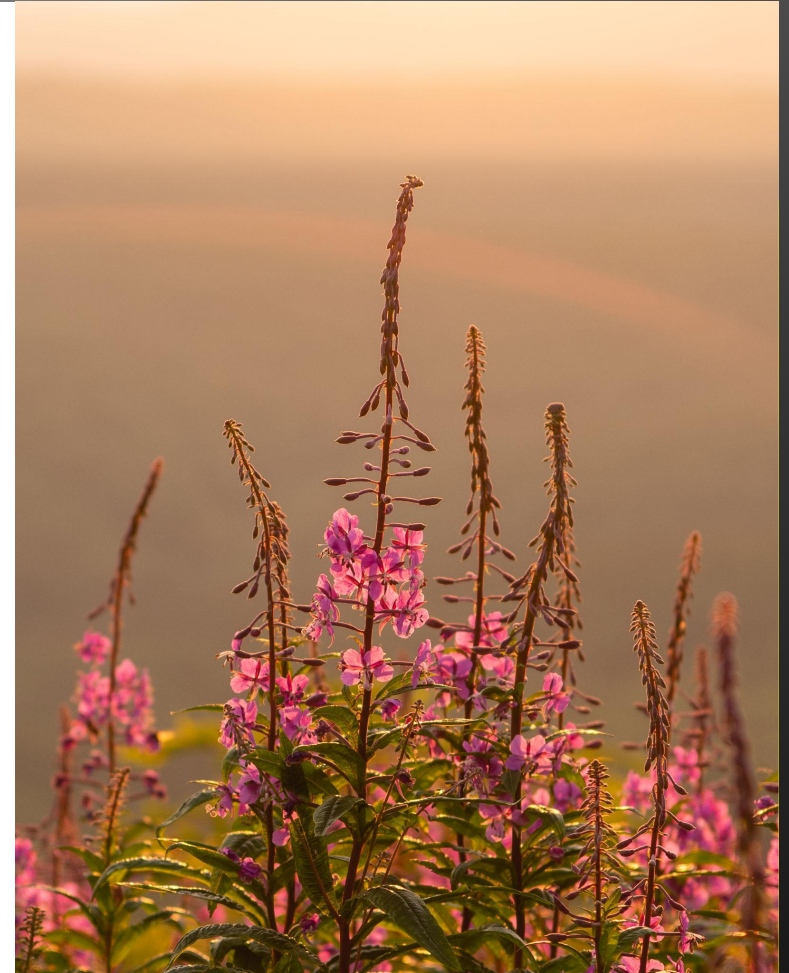


November 2025

www.arundelcameraclub.org

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On the Cover: The cover image by Tim Huesgen titled “Magic Mushroom” won 1st place in unlimited color.

Above: The above image by John Milleker, Jr. titled “Reach” won 2nd place in unlimited color.

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2025-2026 Calendar

December

- 4 Contest - Digital - Abandon/Decay
- 6 Field Trip - Conowingo Dam
- 11 Christmas Party
- 18 Contest - Print - Abandon/Decay
- 25 Christmas Day - No Meeting

January

- 1 New Years Day - No Meeting
- 8 Program - Glen Thompson - Capturing Life on The Chesapeake
- 15 Contest - Digital - Open
- 22 Program - Janet Jeffers - Water
- 24 Field Trip - Washington National Cathedral
- 29 Contest - Print - Open

February

- 5 Hands On Night - Water
- 12 Contest - Digital - Water
- 19 Photo Talk Night
- 22 Field Trip - Smithsonian Air and Space Museum
- 26 Contest - Print - Water

March

- 5 Program - Irene Sacilotto - Wildlife Photography
- 12 Contest - Digital - Open
- 15 Field Trip - Jerusalem Mill Village Covered Bridge Jericho
- 19 Program - Bob Webber - Abstract Photography
- 26 Contest - Print - Open

April

- 2 Program - Oliver Asis - Travel Photography
- 9 Contest - Digital - Abstract
- 11 Field Trip - Baltimore Zoo
- 16 Photo Walk Night
- 23 Contest - Print - Abstract
- 30 Hands On Night

May

- 2 Field Trip: Oregon Ridge Nature Center
- 7 Program - Denise Silva - Night Photography
- 14 Contest - Digital - Club Events
- 21 Business Meeting
- 28 End of Year Awards Banquet



Congratulations

Promotions

We have two classes in the club: Novice and Unlimited. To advance from the Novice Class to the Unlimited Class in a category, members must accumulate 50 points in that category. Winners are allotted points for each ribbon they win as follows:

- 1st Place - 8 points
- 2nd Place - 6 points
- 3rd Place - 4 points
- 4th Place - 2 points
- Honorable Mention - 1 point

If you would like to know how many points you have in any category, email secretary@arundelcameraclub.org.

In September, we had one promotions:

Cathleen Steele Digital

In October, we had one promotion:

Catherine Rush Unlimited Color Prints

Tricolor Ribbons

During a contest, when all three of a club member's photos win a ribbon within a category, we award them a special red, white, and blue tricolor ribbon.

In September, we awarded one tricolor ribbon:

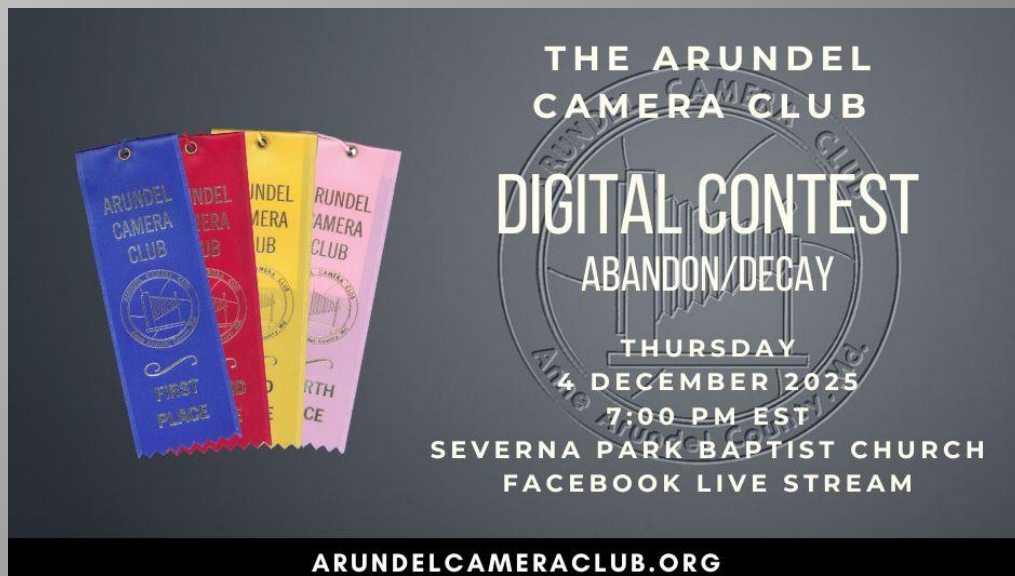
Fred Venecia Unlimited Digital

In October, we awarded one tricolor ribbon:

Mike Thomas Unlimited Monochrome Prints



Digital Contest - Abandon/Decay



Thursday evening at 7:00PM at the Severna Park Baptist Church is our first digital contest of the year. Entries will be reviewed and critiqued by a judge. Top photographs earn ribbons and points toward club awards and recognition.

The theme is Abandoned/Decay. Abandoned photography, focuses on capturing images of derelict buildings, abandoned and decaying properties, often highlighting the beauty and stories within these forgotten spaces. Decay can be defined as to decline from a sound or prosperous condition, to fall into ruin, or to decline in health, strength, or vigor. The image should focus on any subject, or

subjects, that document or convey the sense of abandonment or decay. The theme is not limited to urban environments.

The contest is open to both novice and unlimited paid club members. Club members may enter up to three digital images. Images need to be 2048 pixels maximum on the longest side. They should be jpg formatted. The deadline for submissions is noon on Tuesday before the contest.

File naming conventions and formatting are detailed in the [Contest Rules](#).

Here are some other resource:

- [ACC Digital Contest Submission Instructions](#).
- [Submission Portal](#).

We will also stream the meeting. Info on how to connect will be sent closer to the meeting.

Field Trip - Conowingo Dam



Join us 6 December 2025 at Conowingo Dam / Fisherman's Park (Harford County Side) 2569 Shure's Landing Road, Darlington, MD 21034. Open: 1 hour before sunrise to 1 hour after sunset. Dress warmly. There are bathrooms. Bring food, drink, and chairs.

A good place for breakfast on the way up is the Ballpark Restaurant (3418 Conowingo Rd, Street, MD 21154-1945).

Conowingo Dam is a great place to see Eagles along with herons, gulls and waterfowl. in the winter. When the turbines are in operation, the intake valves suck water and fish through the dam into the river downstream, providing excellent feeding for birds. The

water flowing through the dam remains unfrozen during the winter, attracting birds searching for food.

The primary birding attractions at the dam are Bald Eagles, Osprey (in warm months), herons, gulls, and waterfowl. Large numbers of Bald Eagles gather here starting in October through mid-March, to take advantage of the food availability.

In addition to eagles and other birds, catching the sunrise and the fisherman on the shore or river can be great photo opportunities. There is a nature walk along the shore.

Located nearby:

- [Susquehanna State Park](#)-4122 Wilkinson Rd, Havre De Grace 21878, Hours: 10am to Sunset
- [Steppingstone Farm Museum](#) - 461 Quaker Bottom Rd, Havre De Grace 21078 • (410) 939-2299, Hours: 11am to 3pm



Christmas Party



At 6PM on December 11 the club will be hosting a potluck Christmas Party at the severna Park Baptist Church (506 Benfield Rd, Severna Park, MD 21146).

The club will provide drinks, cups, plates, napkins, and utensils.

Since we are holding the party at the Church, we will need help setting up, decorating, and with cleanup.

NO BYOB. We do not want to offend out host venue.

It's potluck so please bring a dish to share. [Click here for the potluck signup](#). The password is ACC2025.

As usual, we will have a White Elephant gift exchange with the party. Please bring a wrapped gift for the exchange under \$25.00. The gift exchange is completely voluntary. Good gifts include photography related gifts and food. Alcohol is ok but make sure it is sealed since we are celebrating in a church. Use your imagination.



White Elephant Gift Exchange

Everyone who brings a gift draws a number. The person who draws #1 then picks a gift, opens it, and shows it to the rest of the company. Then, in ascending numerical order, the participants choose to either pick and unwrap a new gift from the gift pile or “steal” a previously unwrapped gift. If a gift is “stolen”, the person who had their gift taken from them gets to pick from the gift pile or “steal” a gift from someone else. The turn then passes to the next number (if a gift was chosen from the pile) or to the person who was just robbed (if a gift was stolen). Gifts can only be stolen two times (the third owner is the final owner), and a gift cannot be immediately re-stolen. When all the gifts have been opened, the game is over.

Camera club folklore tells of a gift so bad that it has been re-gifted at our Christmas party for ~30 years. It disappears and is lost for years at a time, then suddenly reappears. That gift is the Pretty Neat Cosmetic Organizer.

What are the odds it will reappear this year? Did someone receive it last year? Will it reappear this year? Will you be the lucky recipient? It's kind of like when people tell you it is good luck when a bird craps on you!

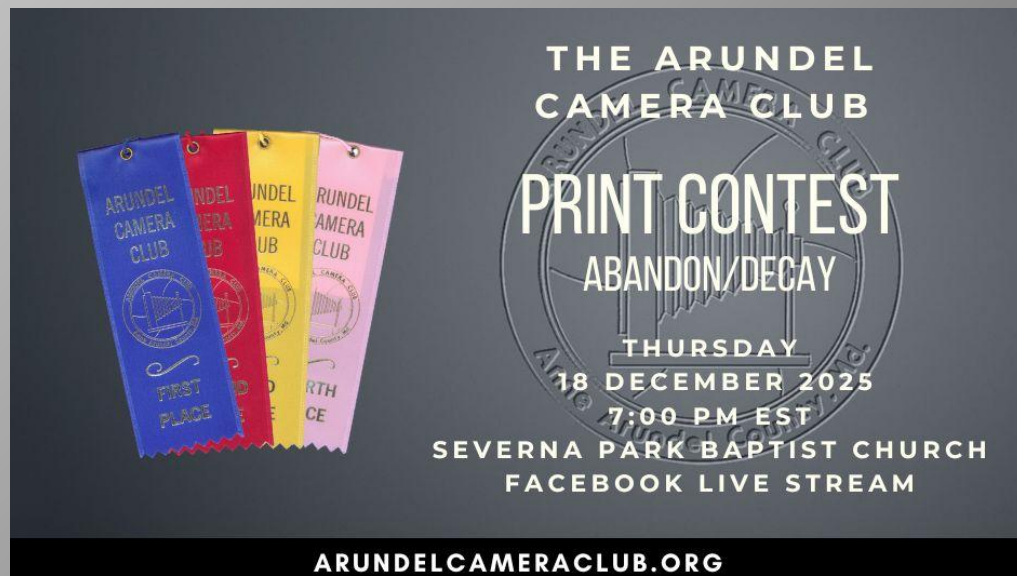


Wilbur Bevan the first recipient of the Pretty Neat Cosmetic Organizer



Pretty Neat Cosmetic Organizer Sold for \$3.99 in 1983

Print Contest - Abandon/Decay



Thursday evening at 7:00PM at the Severna Park Baptist Church is our first print contest of the year. Entries will be reviewed and critiqued by a judge. Top photographs earn ribbons and points toward club awards and recognition.

The theme is Abandoned/Decay. Abandoned photography, focuses on capturing images of derelict buildings, abandoned and decaying properties, often highlighting the beauty and stories within these forgotten spaces. Decay can be defined as to decline from a sound or prosperous condition, to fall into ruin, or to decline in health, strength, or vigor. The image should focus on any subject, or

subjects, that document or convey the sense of abandonment or decay. The theme is not limited to urban environments.

The contest is open to both novice and unlimited paid club members. Club members may enter up to three monochrome prints and three color prints. Print size, matting, and labelling guidelines are described in the [Contest Rules](#).

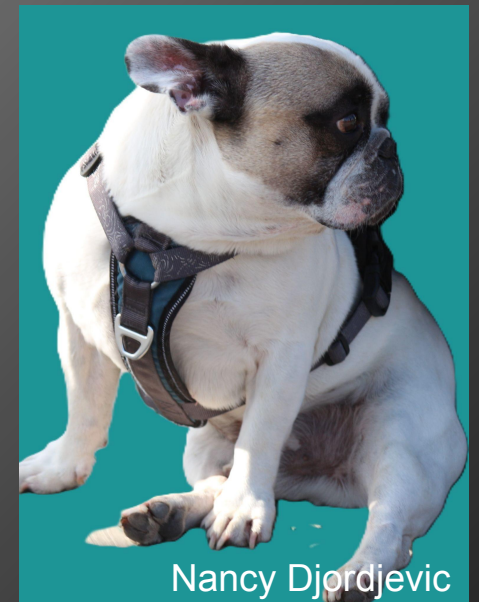
Here are some other resource:

- [Print Competition Labels](#)
- [Matting Prints](#)

We will also stream the meeting. Info on how to connect will be sent closer to the meeting.

If you have any questions contact the contest chairman Ron Peiffer.

Chestertown Downrigging Photos



2025-2026 Contest Themes

February - Water

Water Image must focus on water in any of its many forms, and that form must be composed of actual water. This includes lakes, oceans, beaches, rivers, pools, ponds, waterfalls, fog, steam, ice, ect. Images could include kids playing in water, people walking in the rain, dogs playing in the sprinkler, water splashes or drops, etc.



John Milleker, Jr.



JC Williams



Bob Webber



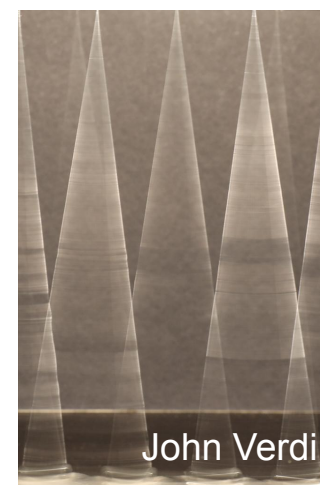
Mike Thomas

April - Abstract

This category should include images that are in some way altered from the usual way it is viewed. The photograph can concentrate on color, form, texture, pattern, line or other aspect of the object. The subject of the photograph may be an identifiable object, but should be rendered in a way that the identity of the object is secondary to aspects of form, color (or tone), lines, shapes, or texture. That is, the subject may be recognizable, but the photograph should not be representational. The distinction can be subtle and ultimately will reside with the judge.



Louis Sapienza



John Verdi

October Digital Novice Contest Results



1st Place - Charles Goldblum
"Morning Adventures"



2nd Place - Russell Zaccari
"Mr Ugly"



3rd Place - Gwen Neff
"Make a Wish"

October Digital Novice Contest Results



4th Place - Russell Zaccari
"Lemons"



HM - Al Kok
"Skewered"



HM - Colin McNaught
"Dragonfly1"

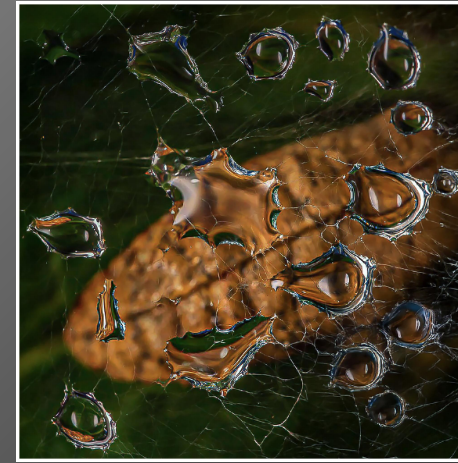


HM - John Crooks
"Dragon"

October Digital Unlimited Contest Results



1st Place - Doug Wood
"Ice"



2nd Place - Deborah Davis
"Natures Lenses"



3rd Place - Catherine Rush
"Bee on Petal"



4th Place - JC Williams
"Serene Water Drop"

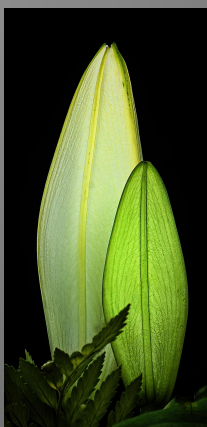
October Digital Unlimited Contest Results



HM - Cathy Hockel "Made in China"



HM - Doug Wood
"Soldiers Prayer"



HM - Louis Sapienza
"Fern Leaves"



HM - Mike Thomas
"Hoverfly"



HM - Mike Thomas
"Jumping Spider Eating Worm"

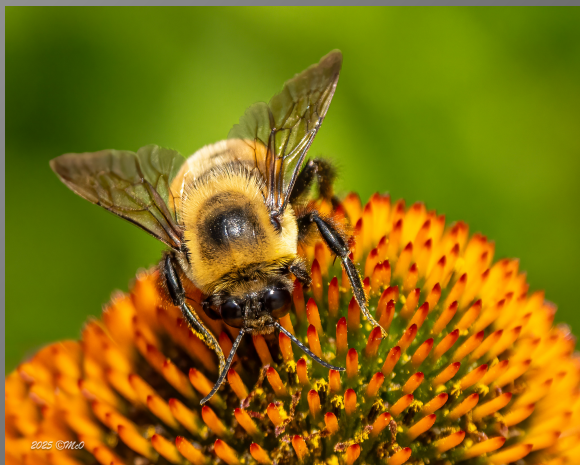
October Color Prints Novice Contest Results



1st Place - John Crooks
"Marsh Pods"



2nd Place - Colin McNaught
"Dragonfly on Twig"



3rd Place - Colin McNaught
"Bee on Orange Flower"

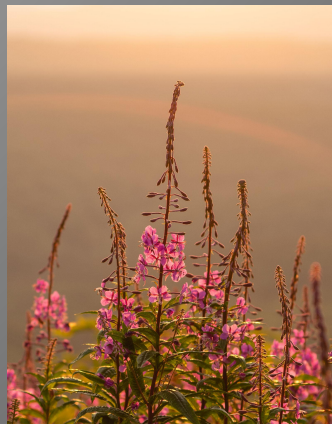


4th Place - Catherine Rush
"Ant on Split Tomato"

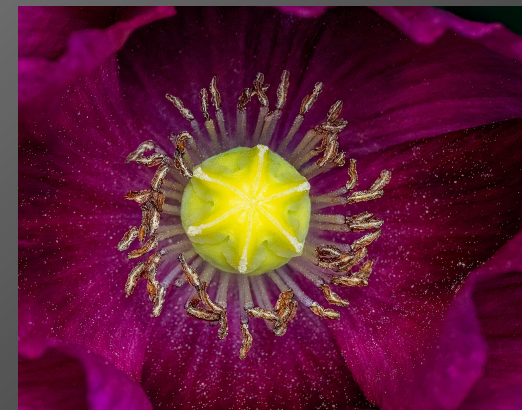
October Color Prints Unlimited Contest Results



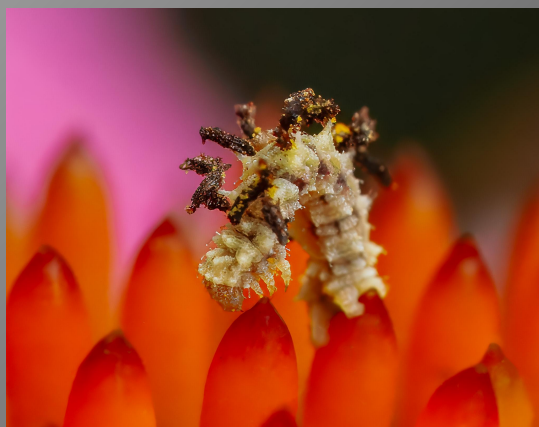
1st Place - Tim Huesgen
"Magic Mushroom"



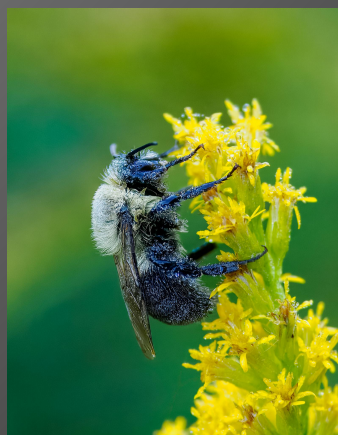
2nd Place - John Milleker, Jr.
"Reach"



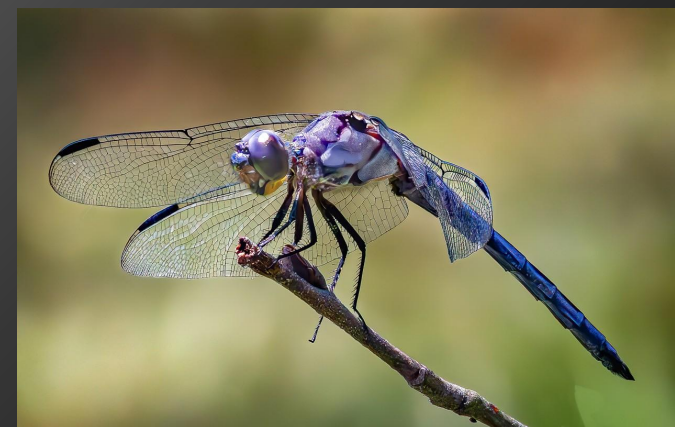
3rd Place - Mike Thomas
'The Eye of the Poppy'



4th Place - Mike Thomas
"Aphid Lion on Coneflower"



HM - Dawn Grannas
"Dew Covered Bee"



HM - Ron Peiffer
"Purple Fly"

October Monochrome Novice Contest Results



2nd Place - Colin McNaught
"Big Bug"



3rd Place - Colin McNaught
"Fluffy Fungus"

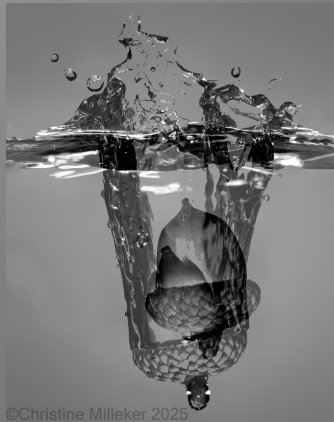
October Monochrome Prints Unlimited Contest Results



1st Place - Mike Thomas
"Cicada Exoskeleton"



2nd Place - Mike Thomas
"Dahlia Noir"



3rd Place - Christine Milleker
"Acorn Splash"

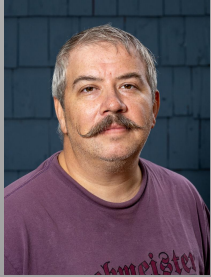


4th Place - Ron Peiffer
"Straight Outa the Trap"



HM - Mike Thomas
"The Spirit of the Milkweed"

Club Officers and Staff



John Milleker,
Jr.
President



Christine
Milleker
VP Programs



Ron Peiffer
VP Contests
MPA



Susan Webber
Treasurer



Russ Zaccari
Secretary /
Webmaster



Doug Wood
Member at
Large



Sarah Derritt
Member at
Large



Ed Niehenke
Field Trips



Nancy
Djordjevic
Field Trips /
Refreshments



Fred Veneca
Contest
Committee



Mike Thomas
Webmaster /
Newsletter



Chip Bulgin
Past President

Social Media

Web Site

The club website can be found at <https://arundelcameracub.org/>. On the website you can find the club calendar and newsletters as well as other information like our constitution and by-laws.

Mailing List

The club has a mailing list where we send out information to club members including information about calendar changes, contests, publishing newsletters, etc. To be added to the mailing list send an email to webmaster@arundelcameracub.org. You can remove yourself from the mailing list at any time.

Newsletters

You can find our newsletters on our website. The newsletter has information on contest results and field trips as well as upcoming events and member accomplishments. You can find the archive of club newsletters at <https://arundelcameracub.org/newsletter/>.

FaceBook

The club has a FaceBook Group which we use to broadcast our meetings. You can find the group here <http://facebook.arundelcameracub.org/>. If you are not a member, you can request to join the group. It is a public group. Anyone on FaceBook can see our posts but only members can make posts.

YouTube

Videos of all of our virtual meetings and contests have been posted to YouTube. If you do not want to join FaceBook or missed one of our online meetings, you can see recordings here. You can find them here <http://youtube.arundelcameracub.org/>.

Instagram

You will find club announcements and winning images posted to our club Instagram account. You can find it at <http://instagram.arundelcameracub.org/>.

Club Information

Meeting Nights

The Arundel Camera Club, Inc. meets every Thursday evening from 7:00 PM until 9:00 PM at Severna Park Baptist Church. Setup starts at 6:30 PM. We broadcast our live meetings to FaceBook.

Click on the map for directions.

Meetings are open to the public, but only dues paying members may enter competitions and participate in critiques.

Meetings alternate between programs of informative speakers, photographic assignments, and photographic competitions.

Competitions give us a chance to show off our work and to get constructive critiques from our judges. Ribbons are awarded for first through fourth place and honorable mention. Normally we have competitions for color prints, monochrome prints, and digital images. In addition to digital contests, we have restarted our print contests. Competitions are held for both novice and unlimited club members. Awards are awarded at the end of year banquet.

The club also has monthly photographic field trips to locations of interest. This is a chance to go out and practice what we learned during programs, a time to socialize with other club members, and a chance to do a little photographic exploration.

Membership Rates

Individual \$40.00

Family \$20.00 each additional family member

[Click here to sign up.](#)

