

Lens Lines Newsletter



January 2026

www.arundelcameraclub.org

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On the Cover: The cover image by Christine Milleker titled "47 Cab" won Honorable Mention in unlimited monochrome prints.

Above: The above image by JC Williams titled "Abandoned but not Forgotten" won 4th Place in unlimited digital.

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2025-2026 Calendar

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

April Contest Theme - 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.

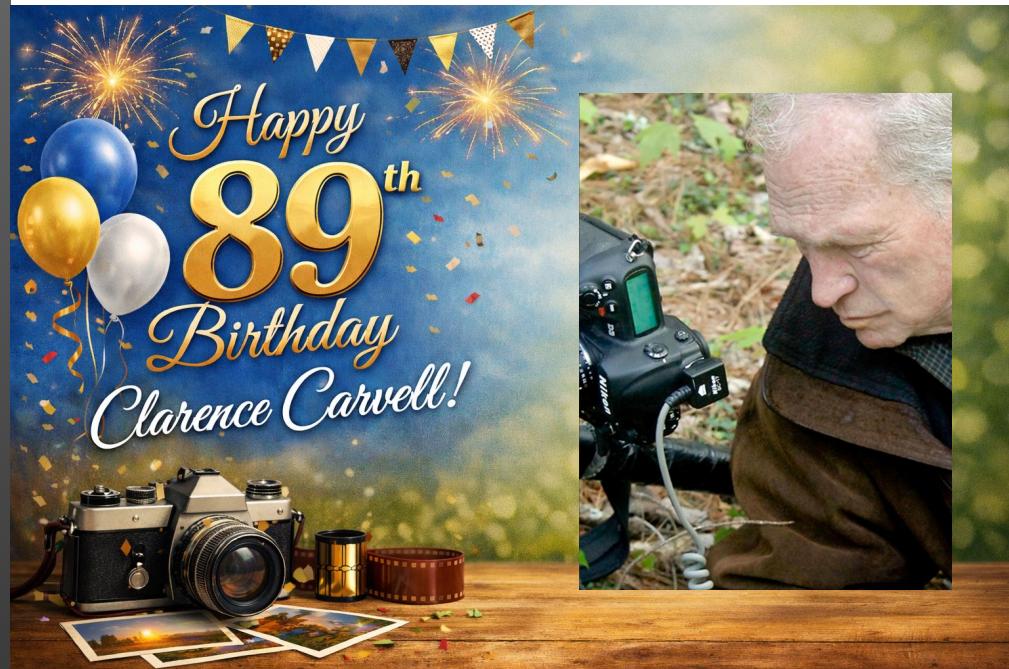


Photo Opportunity - BMI Extended Hours



Once a month, the Baltimore Museum of Industry opens its doors for a special evening— free and open to all.

Every 3rd Wednesday from 4PM to 8PM, Free.

This month they are open for extended hours on January 21st.

It's a great opportunity to explore the museum and their waterfront campus.

The campus has great views of the Baltimore waterfront and the Dominos sign.

With sunset at 5:15PM, bring your tripod for night shots of the Baltimore waterfront.

Anyone who has photographed inside the museum has probably had trouble balancing the bright incoming light from the windows with the dimly lit exhibits. Given the opportunity to photograph after sunset this can mitigate the challenge.

Tripods outside along the waterfront should not be a problem. Unfortunately, tripods are not allowed inside the museum. [You can find the museum photography policy here.](#)

Address: 1415 Key Highway, Baltimore, MD 21230

Parking is free. Food trucks may be available to.

[You can register for the free event here.](#)



Hands On Night - Water & Abstract



THE ARUNDEL CAMERA CLUB
INVITES YOU TO

HANDS ON NIGHT

THURSDAY
5 FEBRUARY 2026
7:00 PM EST

SEVERNA PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

ARUNDELCAMERACLUB.ORG

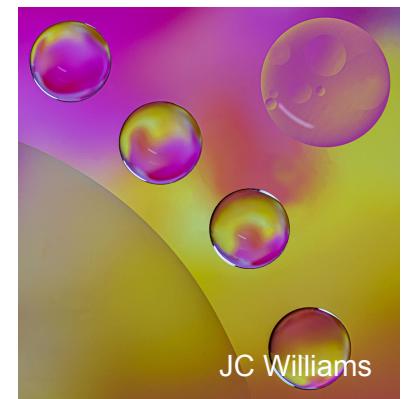
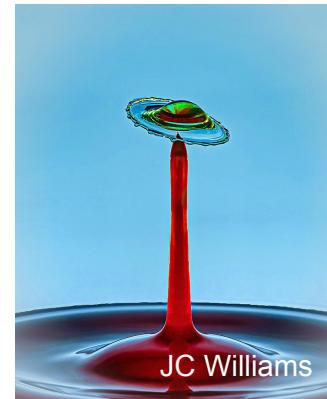
On Thursday night 5 February 2026 we will host a Hands On Night at the Severna Park Baptist Church starting at 7:00 PM. Due to the nature of this activity, we will not be live streaming to FaceBook.

The objective of Hands On Night is for club members to bring their cameras and practice, to get some practical experience. More experienced club members will assist newer club members to share tips and tricks to improve their photography. If you are lucky, you will come away with some images that are good enough to enter into contests. Many images from previous Hands On Nights have gone on to win contests.

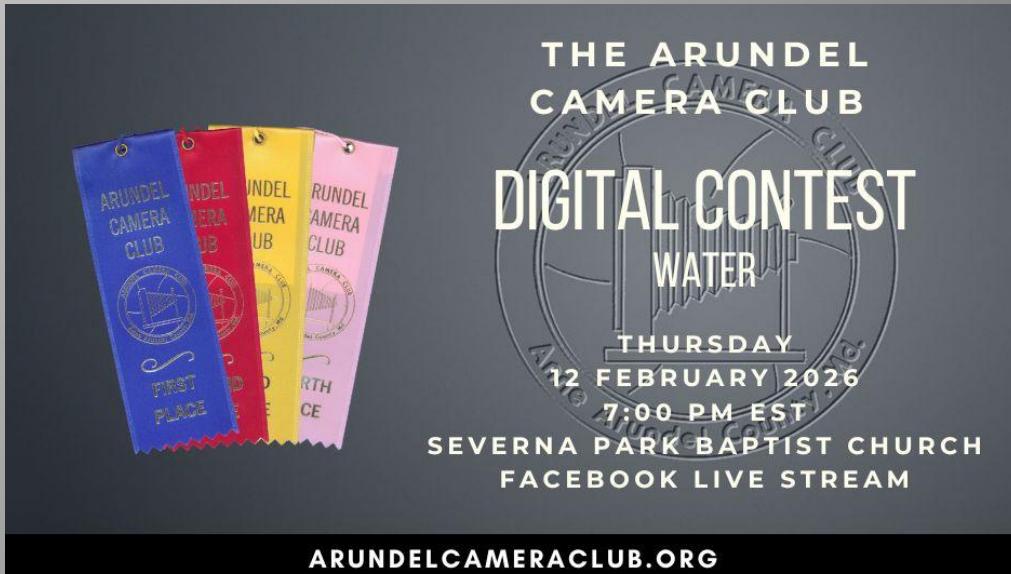
For this Hands On Night we are focusing on the February theme of water and the April theme of Abstract.

Equipment: Bring your cameras, batteries, and memory cards. If you have them bring lights, tripods, cable releases.

Props: Flowers and food are always popular. Backdrops and tablecloths can be useful. What can you bring for the theme of water? Water bottles, drip/splash high speed capture setups, water reflections, water tanks, crinkled foil, fabric scraps, bubble wrap, netting, mirrors and mirror pieces, colored plexi and acrylic sheets, spray bottles, old CDs and DVDs, oil and water, food coloring, feathers, crayons, colored pencils, etc. Use your imagination.



Digital Contest - Water



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 Water. A 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.

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 resources:

- [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.

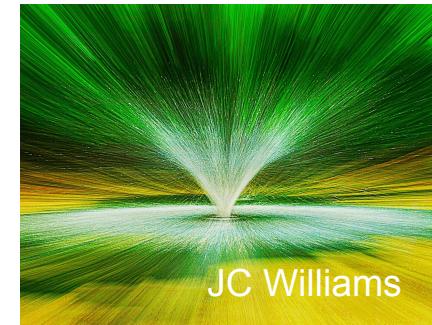


Photo Talk Night



Join us at 7PM on Thursday October 19 at the Severna Park Baptist Church for a Photo Talk Night.

The objective of Photo Talk Night is discuss club members photographs that they are working on for which they are seeking a bit of feedback, including critical comments and suggestions for ways to tackle the image. No brutal takedowns are acceptable. It is an honest and friendly conversation with an opportunity to be creative and encouraging to our colleagues. This is not supposed to be a high and mighty "Critique," it's a conversation. The goal is for everyone to leave at the end of the night feeling they learned something.

There will be a Talk Leader who cues up the photographs and asks the respective photographers to tell the story of the photo.

It is not the Talk Leader's job to make all the comments or provide critique—only to encourage and facilitate discussion.

Discussion will involve club members asking questions about the photo. The discussion can include observations on why the photo works or not and what gets in the way of the photo's impact or message or what makes it work or what can make it work better? When the Talk Leader sees the conversation is done, they will cue up the next photo.

The Photo Talk is open to both novice and unlimited paid club members. Club members may enter up to three digital images. There will not be a theme, so anything goes. 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. Even though this is not a contest, we will use the file naming conventions and formatting that are detailed in the Contest Rules.

Here are some other resources:

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

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

Field Trip - Smithsonian Air and Space Museum



Please join us on a field trip to the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C. on Sunday 22 February 2026. The museum is open from 10am to 5:30pm.

The National Air and Space Museum is one of the most visited museums in the world. It maintains the world's largest and most significant collection of aviation and space artifacts.

The National Air and Space Museum is undergoing multi-year renovation. Thirteen new galleries are now open. So some areas may be closed.

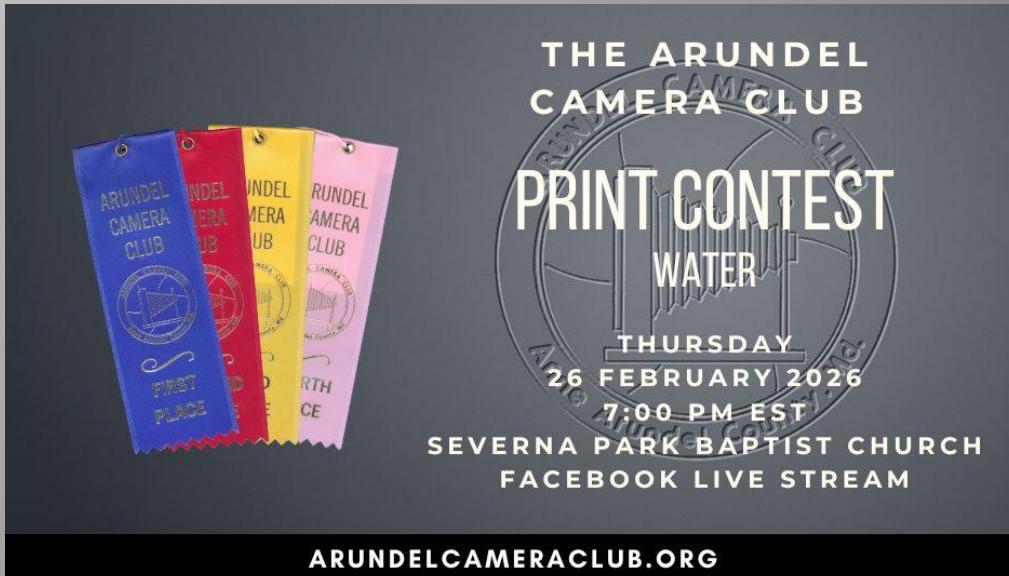
Five New and Reimagined Exhibitions are now open including: Boeing Milestones of Flight, Barron Hilton Pioneers of Flight, Aerospace and Our Changing Environment, Futures in space, World War I: The Birth of Military Aviation.

The museum is location: 650 Jefferson Drive SW, Washington, DC 20560. Visitors must enter through the doors on Jefferson Drive. The closest Metrorail stations are L'Enfant Plaza (use Exit A) and Smithsonian. Both are about a 10 minute walk from the Museum. The Museum does not offer parking. There are limited metered parking spots and paid commercial parking lots nearby. You can use ParkWhiz to reserve a parking spot near the Museum in advance.

All visitors will go through a security checkpoint when entering the building. This includes passing through a metal detector-like machine. This may include additional bag inspection. Tripods are not allowed.

[Click here to reserve your free timed-entry passes now.](#)

Print Contest - Water



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 Water. A 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.

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 resources:

- [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.



Congratulations

Tammi Gorsak

Congratulations to Tammi Gorsak. [SOMD Photography](#) will curate a dedicated [photography wall](#) at the [St. Mary's County Arts Council](#) in Leonardtown, creating a year-long rotating gallery designed to spotlight photographers from across Southern Maryland. The gallery will debut on Jan. 7 with a special inaugural exhibition featuring the winners of the [Cedar Point Federal Credit Union 2026 Calendar Photo Contest](#). Tammi's fireworks picture is the July winner.



ARUNDEL CAMERA CLUB

If you have an photo in a gallery, have been published, won an award, or sold an image; please let us know so we can share and celebrate your accomplishment.



Congratulations

John Verdi

Congratulations to John Verdi. His photos "Oktoberfest, Munich" and "Stories Beneath the Surface" are on display at the Lowe House of Delegates Office Building (6 Bladen Street, Annapolis, MD, 21401). The show is sponsored by the Maryland Federation of Art and will be up from January 14 – April 13, 2026. The show was juried by Laura Pasquini.

<https://mdfedart-lowh2026.artcall.org/pages/web-gallery>

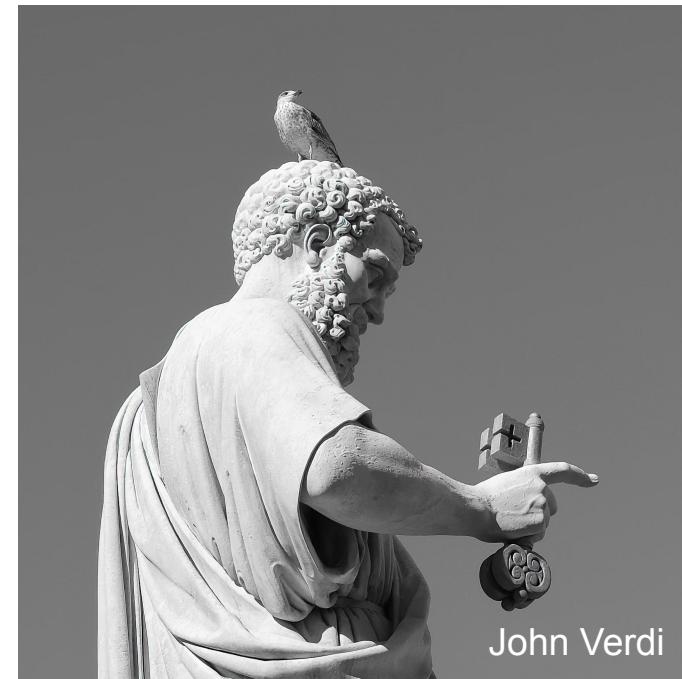


John Verdi

Congratulations to John Verdi. His photo, "A Higher Authority," will be part of the Winter Member Show at the Maryland Federation of Art Circle Gallery from January 5 to January 24. Open every day 11 AM – 5 PM. Located on State Circle across from the Maryland Statehouse. There's lots of good artwork in this show, so stop by sometime.

<https://mdfedart.com/portfolio/wms/>

[The zoom virtual award ceremony is 1/11 at 4PM](#)



Featured Photographer - Cathleen Steele



Our featured photographer this month is Cathleen Steele. Cathy is a longtime club member, ~15 years, who has achieved Unlimited in Monochrome Prints, Color Prints, and Digital.

ACC: Cathay it looks like you have traveled the world. What are some of your favorite places you have been?

CS: Having had the opportunity to travel the world, there are no favorite places because all are unique in character. However, when I was hired to operate the first aviation academy in Nepal as the chief flight instructor, that experience was one of the most cherished of my life. Not only was I able to provide the opportunity to help the students achieve their goal in obtaining pilot certification, but having the privilege to engage in the local culture opened my mind and spirit.



Cathleen Steele
Gathering of



Cathleen Steele
Grand Tetons

Featured Photographer - Cathleen Steele

ACC: How long have you been into photography?

CS: I have been actively engaged in photography for at least fifty years.

ACC: What inspired you to pick up a camera?

CS: I remember receiving a Brownie camera when I was around ten years old and my interest in this art form never ceased

ACC: What equipment do you shoot with?

CS: Over the years I transitioned from a Japanese 35mm to a Nikon D90 and finally upgrading to a Nikon mirrorless Z6ii.

ACC: What are your favorite subjects?

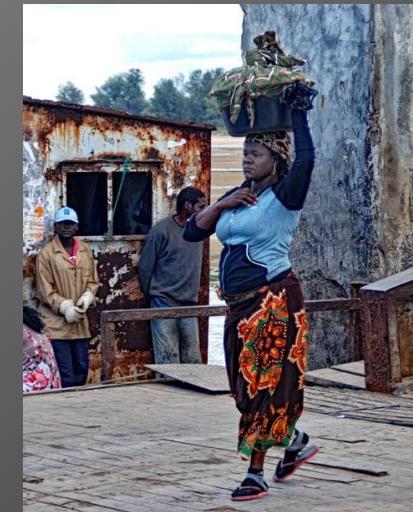
CS: My favorite subjects tend to be street scenes, people in their natural environment, and abstract.

ACC: What is your favorite lighting, time of day, indoors or out?

CS: I prefer to shoot in natural lighting, concentrating on lighting that will enhance the subject.

ACC: How long have you been in the Arundel Camera Club?

CS: My photography has been improved since participating in the Arundel Camera Club for the past fifteen or so years.



Cathleen Steele
Hauling the goods



Cathleen Steele
Woman in doorway

Featured Photographer - Cathleen Steele

ACC: Have you held any offices in the club?

CS: During that time I have held the office of Program Director for two years.

ACC: What photographers have inspired you?

CS: Some of my inspiration has been influenced by noted photographers Dorothea Lange and Ansel Adams.

ACC: How would you describe your photography?

CS: During my years as an employee of an international airline, I have had the opportunity to travel the world and to use my camera capturing the diverse cultures and environment.

ACC: How has your approach to photography evolved?

CS: I believe that the Arundel Camera Club has provided the opportunity for all of us to mature and grow with our craft. Having been much more aware of lighting, composition, and texture has made me gravitate back to monochrome. The challenge in producing good monochrome photos is see the image without the distraction of color.

CS: My approach to photography is to slow down and approach the scene or subject from different angles.

ACC: Where do you find inspiration or motivation?

CS: I find inspiration in the beauty of nature and people, hoping to have the photo evoke some emotion from the observer.



Cathleen Steele
Contemplation



Cathleen Steele
Preparing the offerings

Featured Photographer - Cathleen Steele



Cathleen Steele
Testing the Strings



Cathleen Steele
Looking from the inside



Cathleen Steele
Not Seaworthy



Cathleen Steele
Sitting on the Dock of the Bay



Cathleen Steele
Age of Wisdom



Cathleen Steele
The Attic

December Digital Novice Contest Results



1st Place - Diana Linnekin
"Family Gravesite"



2nd Place - Ed Sievers
"Mystery Trunk"



3rd Place - Diana Linnekin
"Resting Place"



4th Place - John Crooks
"Aging Apartment"



HM - Al Kok
"Abandoned"



HM - Colin McNaught
"Outboards"

December Digital Unlimited Contest Results



1st Place - Deborah Davis
"Hook of Time"



2nd Place - Dawn Grannas
"Still Waiting for One More Throw"



3rd Place - Doug Wood
"Lights Out"



4th Place - JC Williams
"Abandoned but not Forgotten"

December Digital Unlimited Contest Results



HM - Catherine Rush
“Lost Doll Head”



HM - Christine Milleker
“Fort Hancock Railing”



HM - Jackie Colestock
“Past Time to Paint”



HM - JC Williams
“Old Car Memories”



HM - JC Williams
“Old Decaying Wagon Wheel”



HM - Tim Huesgen
“Closed for Business”

December Color Prints Novice Contest Results



2nd Place - Colin McNaught
"Abandoned Loom"



3rd Place - John Crooks
"Fading Game Day Memories"

December Color Prints Unlimited Contest Results



1st Place - Catherine Rush
"Truck Grill"



2nd Place - Jackie Colestock
"Silken Spools"



3rd Place - Mike Thomas
"Altair In Dry Dock"



4th Place - Cheryl Kerr
"Enlightened Incarceration Hall"

December Color Prints Unlimited Contest Results



HM - Clarence Carvell
"Where have all of the Flowers Gone"



HM - Dawn Grannas
"Nothing Left To Inventory"



HM - Mike Thomas
"47 Off The Tracks"



HM - Ron Peiffer
"Longs Corner"

December Monochrome Prints Novice Contest Results



1st Place - Colin McNaught
“Clogged Clogs”



2nd Place - Catherine Rush
“The Payroll Department”



3rd Place - Tim Huesgen
“Weathered Door”



4th Place - Cheryl Kerr
“Coat Hook”

December Monochrome Prints Unlimited Contest Results



1st Place - Clarence Carvell
“Remembering”



2nd Place - Ron Peiffer
“National Bank of Thurmond”



3rd Place - Clarence Carvell
“Rock a by baby”



4th Place - Fred Venecia
“Workbench”



HM - Christine Milleker
“47 Cab”



HM - Doug Wood
“Unraveled”

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://arundelcameraclub.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@arundelcameraclub.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://arundelcameraclub.org/newsletter/>.

FaceBook

The club has a FaceBook Group which we use to broadcast our meetings. You can find the group here <http://facebook.arundelcameraclub.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.arundelcameraclub.org/>.

Instagram

You will find club announcements and winning images posted to our club Instagram account. You can find it at <http://instagram.arundelcameraclub.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.](#)

