



Lens Lines Newsletter

June 2026

www.arundelcameraclub.org

Contents

- [3 - 2026-2027 Draft Calendar](#)
- [4 - Message from the President](#)
- [6 - Club Events Contests Results](#)
- [7 - Field Trip – Chesapeake Baysox](#)
- [8 - Summer Picnic and Pool Party](#)
- [9 - Anne Arundel County Fair Photography Competition](#)
- [10 - Nations Photo Lab Partnership](#)
- [11 - Darwin Green - Mayo Beach, 4/19/2026](#)
- [14 - 2026-2027 Contest Themes](#)
- [15 - Thank You to our End of Year Judges](#)
- [16 - Club Officers and Staff](#)
- [17 - Social Media](#)
- [18 - Club Information](#)



On the Cover: The cover image by Cathy Hockel titled “Silo” was taken on the recent Barnstormers outing.

Above: The above image by Mike Thomas titled “Barn Doorway” was taken on the recent Barnstormers outing.

Copyright info: All Rights Reserved to the images in this newsletter by the respective photographers.

2026-2027 Draft Calendar

September

- 3 Program — Club Year Intro / What I Did Over the Summer
- 10 Contest — Digital — Open
- 13-20 AACo Fair — Photography Contest and Exhibit
- 17 Program — TBD
- 24 Contest — Print — Open

October

- 1 Program — TBD
- 8 Contest — Digital — Farm and Zoo Animals
- 15 Program — TBD
- 22 Contest — Print — Farm and Zoo Animals
- 29 Program / Photo Walk / Hands-On Night

November

- 5 Contest — Digital — Open
- 12 Program — TBD
- 19 Contest — Print — Open
- 26 *Thanksgiving Day — No Meeting*

December

- 3 Contest — Digital — Reflections
- 10 Christmas Party
- 17 Contest — Print — Reflections
- 24 *Christmas Eve — No Meeting*
- 31 *New Year's Eve — No Meeting*

January

- 7 Program — TBD

- 14 Contest — Digital — Open
- 21 Program — TBD
- 28 Contest — Print — Open

February

- 4 Photo Talk, Critique, or Hands On Night
- 11 Contest — Digital — Street Photography
- 18 Program — Photo Talk Night
- 25 Contest — Print — Street Photography

March

- 4 Program — TBD
- 11 Contest — Digital — Open
- 18 Program — TBD
- 25 Contest — Print — Open

April

- 1 Program — TBD
- 8 Contest — Digital — Movement
- 15 Program — Photo Walk
- 22 Contest — Print — Movement
- 29 Program / Photo Walk / Hands-On Night

May

- 6 Program — TBD
- 13 Contest — Digital — Club Events
- 20 Business Meeting
- 27 End of Year Awards Banquet

Message from the President

Dear Members,

As we're now in our summer break, last night I sat at my computer and wanted to close up such a great season. Thank you all for another fantastic year at the Arundel Camera Club. Your passion, creativity, and dedication continue to make this organization a vibrant community for photographers of all skill levels.

It was wonderful to see so many of you at our awards banquet. Celebrating our end-of-year winners together was a highlight, and the food and service was excellent. A big thanks to everyone who helped make the event possible. I am grateful to Susan Webber for securing our venue (twice!) and coordinating with them to ensure everything ran smoothly. I also want to thank Mike Thomas for preparing the awards presentation, overseeing the design and ordering of the awards, and loaning us the presentation TV for the night. A sincere thank you to Ron Peiffer for providing the thoughtful place setting gifts and creating an elegant solution to package the awards in such professional gift bags. Ron and the contest team also worked hard to secure year-end judges

to select our winning photographs. The best of the best! Also Ed Niehenke, a key member of our amazing Field Trips team, was snapping photos at the banquet for another great event video. Last but not least, Christine Milleker for helping me with virtually everything to prepare for the banquet.

Also, I can't tell you how surprised and moved I was to receive a certificate of appreciation presented to me at the banquet. It was a true privilege to receive such recognition and reminds me how much I just love our club, my fellow officers and its members. You guys got one over on me, sneaking members out into the hallway at a few meetings to sign the mat! This is one of the most thoughtful and cherished gifts I've ever received. Thank you!

And one final thought I wanted to bring up again to close out the season. Thank you to our wonderful officers; their efforts made this year another great one with absolutely amazing results, truly making my job easy!

Message from the President

As we approach our 70th year as a club, this milestone testifies to the enduring talent and commitment of our members past and present. Looking ahead to next season, I am excited to remind everyone about the new President's Award coin for our 70th year. Members who submit the maximum of 72 images (digital and print) over the entire season will receive this coin. I will cover the costs for the coins and I couldn't be happier buying one for every member, but you'll have to earn it. It's going to be great seeing everyone strive for this goal as we sharpen our craft together.

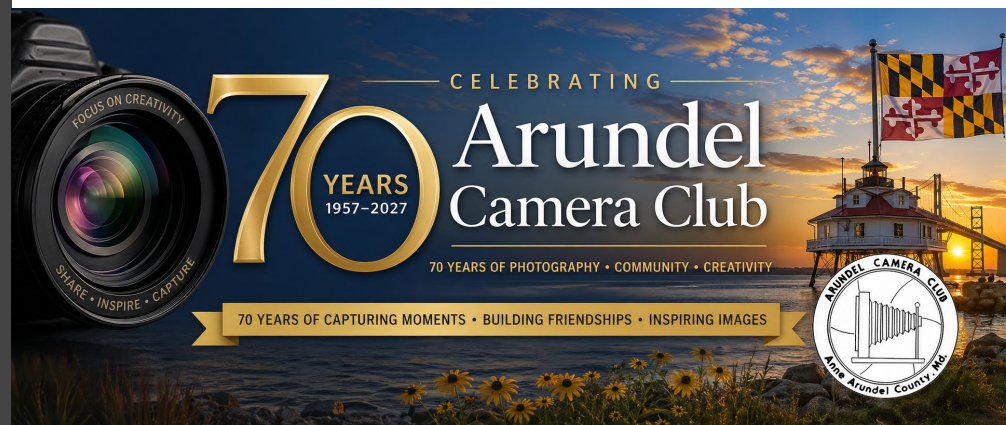
While we will always offer a free membership tier, upgrading to a paid membership is the best way to support the club. Paid members are encouraged to submit photos for contests to earn points, awards, and the helpful, friendly critiques vital for improving their photography. For just forty dollars a year, your membership dues directly fund the resources that make our community possible, including our meeting location, expert judges, amazing program speakers, website, virtual streaming, and insurance. Even if you do not intend to compete, your financial support is crucial to keeping

these operations running smoothly.

Believe me when I say this. You'll want to be a part of this upcoming club year. Your officers are actively working on many great ideas to celebrate, including big learning opportunities, great programs, awesome judges, valuable critiques and much more! I suggest you block off all your Thursdays from September to May now and I look forward to seeing what we capture together in the coming year!

My deepest thanks,

John Milleker Jr.
President
Arundel Camera Club



Club Events Contest Results



Novice - Best of Show
Diana Linnekin
"Tropical Beauty"



Unlimited - Best of Show
Tim Huesgen
"Kenilworth Lilly B&W"

Dianna and Tim both won a free membership for the 2026-2027 club year.

Chesapeake Baysox



The only thing more fun than attending a baseball game is attending a Chesapeake Baysox game with a group of your friends,

On August 7, 2026, the Arundel Camera Club and friends will meet at the Baysox stadium in Bowie for a 7:05 game with Harrisburg. Tickets are \$35 and include a party deck overlooking 3rd base and a buffet of hot dogs, hamburgers, BBQ chicken and soft drinks. This party deck has a cover with tables and chairs and is wheelchair accessible. The Baysox Party Decks are the perfect location to host your group event! The Party Decks give you and your group all of

the sounds and smells of being outdoors at the ballpark from the privacy of your exclusive open-air suite.

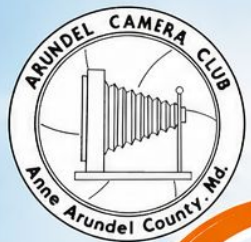
Great news, we have 27 people to secure the party deck on 3rd base at the Aug 7 Bowie Baysox game! There are more seats available, but Nancy Djordjevic will need final numbers by July 15.

Tripods and monopods ARE allowed on the deck only, so please be respectful. There is a bag check – no outside food or drink. This area is handicap accessible Per Box Office, if the weather is bad, we will do everything possible to play the game. In the event that we cannot, we can still host the party and will likely still have Fireworks as long as the gates open.

Parking is free. Fireworks are after the game. There is a circus theme and a children's playground.

Policies: No outside food and drinks. No cameras with lenses that fully extend to larger than 12". You can carry a camera around your neck or in your hands without the case. Small clutch purses, with or without a handle or strap, are permitted along with either the 12" x 6" x 12" clear tote bag or the one-gallon freezer bag.

Summer Picnic and Pool Party



ARUNDEL
— CAMERA CLUB —

Summer PICNIC AND POOL PARTY!

BRING:



CHAIRS



SWIM SUITES



CAMERAS



SOMETHING TO
SHARE FOR
THE POTLUCK



THE CLUB PROVIDES
Hamburgers & Hotdogs!



➤ AUGUST 22ND, 2026 ➤

12:00PM – 4PM

at Jackie Colestock's



1335 Old Mountain Rd
Pasadena, MD 21122

www.arundelcameraclub.org

Anne Arundel County Fair Photography Competition



ARUNDEL CAMERA CLUB
Proud Sponsor of the
ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY FAIR
PHOTOGRAPHY
COMPETITION & EXHIBIT

EST. 1957

SEPTEMBER 16-20, 2026

Celebrating Creativity. Capturing Community. Inspiring Everyone.



OPEN TO
ALL AGES
ADULT • TEEN • YOUTH



AWARDS &
RECOGNITION



SHOW YOUR
TALENT.
...
JOIN OUR
COMMUNITY.



VISIT THE EXHIBIT.
BE INSPIRED!

The **Arundel Camera Club** is dedicated to promoting photography, supporting photographers, and enriching our community through education, outreach, and exhibits.

Scan me! to learn more!



Learn more about the Arundel Camera Club at
ArundelCameraClub.org

 WHERE PASSION FINDS FOCUS.
Everyone Welcome!



During the fair, if we can manage the coverage, we will be able to set up a table in the photography exhibit area with information and flyers leading new interested photographers to us.

Last year we had fantastic support from our club and we will need the whole club's support again this year.

If you are interested and can help, please let John know! We will need helpers to receive and sort the entries, as well as hang them on the exhibit walls (September 7th & 8th). During the fair, September 10th through September the 14th we will need enthusiastic club members to be on hand to discuss the club with interested parties and hand out flyers and business cards. On Monday September 15th we could use help with the pickup of photographs and ribbons.

If you can help out we really appreciate it, please let John know which day/days and times you may be able to cover. Last year, the fair waived the entry fees for our volunteers. John, or one of the other club officers, will be on site for the receiving and pickup dates as well as the majority of the fair opening dates as well.

For the third year in a row, John Milleker, Jr. has taken the role of the Chairperson of Photography for the Anne Arundel County Fair.

The vision is that the Arundel Camera Club should be in charge of their own county fair photography contest and exhibit.

The club has been afforded a very interesting opportunity that will enable us to reach many more photography enthusiasts in the county with the side benefit of potentially recruiting new club members.

Nations Photo Lab Partnership

Professional Photo Printing Lab Hunt Valley, MD

<https://www.nationsphotolab.com/>

Nations Photo Lab is a full-service photo lab specializing in innovative, high quality photo prints and decor. We pride ourselves on being the best. From our amazing quality products & quick turnaround times to industry-leading prices & fantastic customer service.

Offer a full range of custom photo services such as our Photo Books, Square Prints & Canvas Prints with materials such as Metal Prints & Acrylic Prints, each one of our products is designed to impress your clients or to beautifully display your own work.

To put it simply, we print your favorite moments and transform them into unforgettable pieces of art. We believe that every moment matters – whether it's capturing your child's first steps or your first trip to Venice.

- \$30 off their first Nations Photo Lab order
- 25% off all future orders to encourage ongoing use
- \$100 credit for the 2025-2026 Photograph of the Year

*Contact: Mike Thomas for Discount Codes.

Darwin Green - Mayo Beach, 4/19/2026



It's morning and I arrive at Mayo Beach, excited to take some minimalist photos of the beach.

Two and a half weeks earlier, I had decided to travel around the Chesapeake Bay to create a portrait of the massive body of water in my own backyard. The idea came to me after a short film project of mine fell through. My brain abhors a creative vacuum, and my dad had given me his old Pentax 645D camera with an assortment of lenses and a sturdy tripod.

He would give me "assignments," such as: "Go photograph Annapolis where I used to live."

I'd take my son to wander Annapolis' streets and take snapshots, but the camera was too bulky to function as an efficient street photography camera. Instead, I started taking still shots of the water, though at the time it was still too cold for there to be boats in the harbor. I decided to return to Annapolis when the weather warmed, but in the meantime I began scouting other places nearby.

In early April, I went to Sandy Point at dawn and took two photographs that impressed even me. I began to suspect that the Chesapeake Bay might harbor photographic treasures along its banks. Soon after, I decided to embark on a photobook project stretching from Elk River Park in the north to the distant view of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel from Chesapeake Beach Park.

At Mayo Beach, I search along the shoreline, photographing driftwood and sand. I'm hunting for photographic treasure with a heavy medium format camera slung over my shoulder. At one point I accidentally wander into a Bald Eagle nesting habitat, where a park ranger kindly — well, not so kindly — escorts me out of the area. I explain that it was an accident and he accepts the

Darwin Green - Mayo Beach, 4/19/2026

explanation. Before leaving, I ask if he knows of any nearby locations that might benefit the project, and he obliges.

Driving home later, I can't wait to scour the SD card for my booty. But when I review the images, nothing bedazzles my eyes. With a combination of disappointment and stubbornness, I decide to return that evening.

Perhaps I should have checked the weather forecast. Perhaps I wouldn't have cared anyway.

On the drive back to the beach, rain begins to fall. I happen to have a plastic grocery bag in the car — possibly the last one left in Anne

Arundel County — so I wrap the camera in it before stepping outside. I set the camera bag beneath a bench, position myself under a tree, and get to work.

Among the assortment of lenses my father gave me is a Takumar 400mm prime lens. The lens alone weighs 5.5 pounds, is manual focus, and mounts to the camera body through a 6x7 adapter held in place only by tension. It's unwieldy, massive, and if any part of the mounting process is slightly off, unstable.

So naturally, I decide to attach this lens to the camera in the pouring rain rather than safely inside the car.



Darwin Green - Mayo Beach, 4/19/2026

This means exposing the mirror to the elements, so I work quickly in the cold downpour. I mount the lens, place the setup on the tripod, and prepare to take the first shot.

The moment my finger touches the camera body, the camera slips free from the lens and falls directly into the sand. I just stand there for a second, mouth agape, staring at the open camera body lying in the rain at my feet.

Then survival instinct kicks in. I grab the camera before rain can fall into the exposed body, wipe away what sand I can, and somehow manage to reattach everything successfully.

I turn back toward the water and continue searching for a composition. The Chesapeake Bay, I've found, often forces me into minimalist photography, and this is one of those moments.

I take several shots before glancing to my right. There's another image I want, but it's roughly 150 yards away. I don't want to disassemble the setup, so I hoist the entire rig — tripod, camera, lens, and all — and begin half-running through the rain. The setup weighs at least fifteen pounds.

I wrap the camera in the grocery bag and hurry toward the new



position. Once there, I set up the tripod, wait for the timing to feel right, and release the shutter.

Then I carry the soaked setup back to my original spot, collect the now drenched camera bag, and retreat to the car.

I've had other adventures since then, but this was one of the moments when I realized what photographing the Chesapeake Bay could actually become.

The Bay had stopped feeling like scenery by then. It had become pursuit.

Oh, and the camera's fine.

2026-2027 Contest Themes

October - Farm and Zoo Animals

Any photograph whose primary subject is an animal photographed in a farm, zoo, aquarium, aviary, wildlife park, petting zoo, or similar managed captive environment. Subjects may include domestic livestock, exotic animals, birds, reptiles, or aquatic animals. Images may emphasize portraiture, behavior, interaction, habitat, or storytelling. Photographs of animals in the wild or in their natural unmanaged habitat do not qualify.

December - Reflections

Reflection photography, also referred to as mirror photography, is when you use reflective surfaces to create an artistic echo of a scene. This type of photography can add an interesting spin to locations that are hotspots for photographers such as oceans, lakes, puddles, and even rain drops. They're all subjects that are commonly used to create brilliant reflection photographs. Of course, less traditional resources such as metal, tiles, mirrors and anything with a shiny surface can also be easily incorporated into this type of photography. The reflections should be captured in camera and not created through Photoshop or similar editors.

February - Street Photography

Street photography captures candid, unposed moments and scenes found in public places such as streets, parks, markets, transit areas, festivals, and urban environments. The goal is to document everyday life, human nature, culture, or the atmosphere of a place in an authentic and spontaneous way. People are commonly an important element in street photography, but a person does not have to appear in the image. Photographs of urban scenes, objects, signs, architecture, or environments without people are acceptable if they strongly convey the character, mood, story, or human presence of the street environment. Images focused solely on buildings or architecture without a sense of street life or human context are better suited for architectural or cityscape photography rather than street photography.

April - Movement

A photograph that conveys a strong sense of motion, energy, or action. The subject may be a person, animal, vehicle, object, or natural element such as water, smoke, or weather. Movement may be captured by freezing action sharply, showing motion blur, panning with the subject, or using long exposure techniques. The image should clearly communicate the feeling or effect of movement as a primary element of the composition.

Thank You to our End of Year Judges



Steve Bruza

Steve is a co-organizer of the Meet Up group, Charm City Photo Club and is on the Board of Directors of the Maryland Photography Alliance. Steve's newest passion is acquiring vintage lenses to use on mirrorless cameras.



Art Vidrine

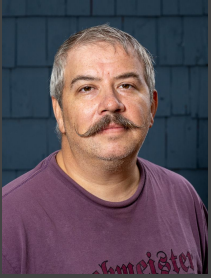
Associate Art Professor at Bowie State (Studio Art Coordinator, Associate Professor of Art, Department of Fine and Performing Arts).



Carmella Doty

Carmella has an MFA from Washington Trinity College and has worked in the Washington DC area in digital technology, and with PG School System. Has also taught at AACC.

Club Officers and Staff



John
Milleker, Jr.
President



Christine
Milleker
VP Programs



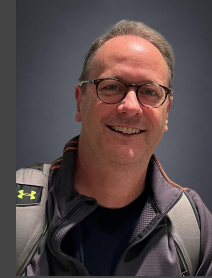
Ron Peiffer
VP Contests
MPA



Susan Webber
Treasurer



Russ Zaccari
Secretary /
Webmaster



John Crooks
Member at
Large



Sarah Derritt
Member at
Large



Ed Niehenke
Field Trips
Chairman



Nancy
Djordjevic
Field Trips /
Refreshments



Chris Barnec
Field Trips



Cathaleen
Steele
Field Trips



Fred Veneca
Contest
Committee



Diana Linnekin
Contest
Committee



Mike Thomas
Webmaster /
Newsletter

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.](#)

