

OCTOBER 2025

Schedule Meetings/Locations:

NOTE – IN GENERAL, MEETINGS ON THE 2ND MONDAY WILL BE HELD IN PERSON. ALL OTHER MEETINGS WILL BE VIRTUAL. (Unless otherwise noted in the schedule.)

Board Meeting:

1st Monday of the Month* 7:00 PM
(Zoom-virtual)

In Person Meeting:

2nd Monday of the Month* 7:15 PM
First Baptist Church of West
Hartford
90 North Main Street
West Hartford, CT 06107

Competition Meeting:

3rd Monday of the Month* 7:15 PM
(Zoom-virtual)

General Meeting:

4th Monday of the Month* 7:15 PM
(Zoom-virtual)

*Unless otherwise noted in schedule

Above meetings are held from
September through April (except
December)

Charter Oak Photographic Society, Inc.



General Schedule of Events

Charter Oak Photographic Society, Inc. 2025-2026 Schedule

Month	In Person Meetings**	Competition Judging (Virtual by Zoom)	General Meetings (Virtual by Zoom**)	Other Activities
September	Monday, September 22, 2025 "Photographing Models" with Tom Cuchara, HonNEC of Hamden, CT	N/A	Monday, September 29, 2025 "Finding Your Creative Voice" by Richard Lewis of New Jersey	Check the FOCUS for details on other opportunities as they come up. *Note: Special Dates for These Events **Unless otherwise noted
October	Monday, October 13, 2025 "Small Group Photo Sharing and Critiques" by COPS Members	Monday, October 20, 2025 Specified Topic: PSA Nature	Monday, October 27, 2025 "Printing Demystified" by Robert Chaplin of Florida	
November	Monday, November 10, 2025 "In the Style of..." by Stan Tetrault of Tolland, CT; "Favorite Places to Photograph in CT" by COPS Members	Monday, November 17, 2025 Specified Topic: Intentional Camera Movement	Monday, November 24, 2025 "A Foundation for the Macro World" by Doug Johnson of Colorado	
December	 No Meetings in December (Happy Holidays!)			
January	Monday, January 12, 2026 "TBD"	Monday, January 19, 2026 Specified Topic: Within 30 Minutes of Your Home	Monday, January 26, 2026 "Inside Smart Photo Editor" by Hazel Meredith of Tennessee	
February	Monday, February 9, 2026 "Small Group Photo Sharing and Critiques" by COPS Members	Monday, February 16, 2026 Specified Topic: Geometry in Nature (Macro)	Monday, February 23, 2026 "Photographing Nome Alaska" by Henry Doyle of Kentucky	
March	Monday, March 9, 2026 "Zoo Photography" by Meredith Harris of Farmington, CT	Monday, March 16, 2026 Specified Topic: Cell Phone Photographs	Monday, March 23, 2026 "Nightscape/Astro Photography" by Royce Bair of Utah	
April	Monday, April 13, 2026 "TBD" by Phil Atiyeh of Cheshire, CT	Monday, April 20, 2026 Specified Topic: In the Style of Famous Photographers	Monday, April 27, 2026 "Capturing Motion" by Betsy Wilson of Pennsylvania	
May	None	Monday, May 11, 2026* Judging for Annual Awards JUDGES ONLY – CLOSED TO MEMBERS	Monday, May 18 2026* "Mini Shows" by COPS Members (IN PERSON)	
..... No Meetings during the Summer				

COPS NEW MEMBERS!

Our club has two new members! Dr. Ira Scheinerman and Mr. David Scheinerman, both of West Hartford recently joined COPS. **Welcome Ira and David from everyone in COPS!** Members: as soon as you have a chance, please introduce yourself to them and make them feel welcome.

IT's DUES TIME FOR THE 2025-2026 SEASON!

This is a friendly reminder that now is the time to pay your annual dues. Recognizing that there are a variety of personal circumstances, there are five types of memberships, each with a different annual dues amount. The descriptions and requisite forms can be downloaded from the COPS Main Website at <https://charteroakphoto.org/become-a-member/>

NEW MEMBERSHIP RAFFLE!

We will be holding a raffle to encourage gaining new members!

One raffle ticket will be given to each member in good standing for every new member they bring in. At the end of the club season, one ticket will be drawn. The winner will receive a free club membership for the upcoming season. The more new members you bring in, the better your chances to win!

COPS GENERAL CLUB NEWS

This month's Competition Specified Topic is "PSA Nature". Check out the COPS website for guidance on compliant submittals. Please submit your images no later than October 12th at 11:30pm. The Competition Meeting will be conducted via Zoom, as usual, and is scheduled for October 20th at 7:15pm.

The Specified Topic of the November competition is "Intentional Camera Movement". This topic is a direct followup to the fascinating March 24th General Meeting presentation "Camera Movement" by Stephanie Johnson. Your submittals for this competition are due by November 9th at 11:30pm.

The Competition instructions document was revised by Steve Potashner to make it even easier to use. This improved version is available on the main COPS website.

Charter Oak FOCUS OCT 2025

We are resuming the inclusion of **snacks** availability to our monthly in-person meeting. This is an opportunity to enjoy some **goodies** and chat with other Members in the kitchen both before, and during, the meeting. To make this happen, we need volunteers to bring **snacks** such as **cookies/cakes/etc.** **Please offer** to express your support by letting Gert Perry know via email at gertp@att.net prior to the meetings what you are prepared to contribute.

In recognition of the experience and knowledge our fellow Members have of our region, our President, Gert Perry, is suggesting that Members planning to visit a favorite location for photography, or attend an event of photographic interest, please reach out to other Members to go with them. This is intended to be a very informal means of sharing what you know and enjoy with others.

REMINDER: there are new competition photo submittal dimensions limits and a new competition submission category: "Unedited". Information was provided in last month's Focus and more info is available on the COPS website.

Back on September 22nd, Tom Cuchara led an interesting and very informative in-person workshop with two models to teach us about people photography in a studio environment. It was clearly enjoyed by the many Club Members in attendance. The photos below were provided by Tom Cuchara (on the left) and Steve Potashner (the other two).

This was also the first Club meeting in a few years in which snacks were provided in the kitchen during the meeting. The attendees also enjoyed those and the additional opportunity to socialize with other Members and the models.



IN-PERSON WORKSHOP MEETING: OCTOBER 13th

This month we will be conducting one of the Club's most popular **in-person** sessions. **Small Group Photo Sharing and Suggestions** is a terrific, no-pressure, opportunity to share, and receive informal guidance from fellow COPS Members on, photos of your choice. Bring up to five images loaded onto your laptop/tablet or printed; your choice. This is an excellent way to improve photos which you are considering for submittal to an upcoming competition! You are welcome to come and share photos even if you don't plan to enter them in a competition! If you wish to share digital images, but don't have a laptop, contact Meredith at maharris@sbcglobal.net ASAP.

Join us in person on October 13 at **7:15 PM** at the First Baptist Church, 90 North Main Street, West Hartford, and come ahead of that for refreshments and socializing.

PROGRAM MEETING: OCTOBER 27th

Our speaker for October's Program is Robert L. Chaplin of Florida.

He will be providing a ZOOM Presentation: "Printing Demystified – From Profile to Print". Robert believes that a photograph isn't fully realized until it is printed and shared. This talk demystifies monitor color profiling, color spaces, and printing. If you've ever wanted to print, but didn't. Or, if you didn't get the results you expected when you did, this talk is for you. We will also explore different types of print media to bring your vision to life.

Mr. Chaplin considers the Everglades his photographic playground, and his passion for the Everglades is infectious. More than a fine art photographer, he teaches photography and has led photographic workshops. He is a founding director of the South Florida National Parks Camera Club and a member of the Board of Directors of the Florida National Parks Association.

Robert prints all of his work and uses a variety of media for his artistic vision.

He has also co-authored and published the one-of-a-kind photographic guide, Everglades National Park: A Photographic Destination. His photo, Florida Bay Fishermen, is a Florida vehicle specialty plate that supports Everglades National Park. Find out more at www.floridabayforever.com



MEMBER-to-MEMBER SALES OPPORTUNITIES

This space affords Members the opportunity to make a Member-to-Member sale of your photographic equipment and/or supplies. COPS Inc. will not be a direct participant and thus will have no liability in any transactions. Interested sellers are welcome to send me (Jack Strand) an email with the text which you request be considered for inclusion in the next issue of FOCUS.

[\[jack_strand@yahoo.com\]](mailto:jack_strand@yahoo.com)

GET READY FOR OUR NOVEMBER 10 WORKSHOP!

Our November workshop will include not one, but two topics!

First, COPS Member Stan Tetrault will be presenting "In the Style of..." - an overview of work of various famous photographers. Note - this is a good source of inspiration for our April Specified Topic. There will be more info to come on this.

Second, members are asked to share your favorite places to photograph in Connecticut. We hope that you will participate by talking about one place/ event, including information about the location, the best time to go (time of day/year), tips on lenses/equipment (if appropriate), the website (if applicable), etc. If possible, show a few images (max 4) to illustrate the photographic opportunities (although this is not required). If you plan to talk about a spot, please email Meredith at maharris22@sbcglobal.net with your name, the name of the location or event, and your related photos (if any) by **October 19**.

MONTHLY COMPETITION STANDINGS AS OF APRIL 2025
[No monthly competition in September 2025]

2024-2025 YTD Results April

Name	Total # of Images Using the Highest 2 Scoring Images	Total Points Using the Highest 2 Scoring Images	1st Prize	Mention
Cindy Gosselin	14	391.6	12	5
Mark Teitelbaum	14	383.5	11	6
Paula Fink	14	372.3	6	4
Pam Hastings	14	369.5	2	10
Chris Quallen	14	362.5	3	6
Stan Tetrault	14	354.0	3	5
Michael Miller	12	310.1	3	3
Steve Silk	6	164.0	1	2
Frank Amazeen	4	105.0		1
<u>Masters</u>				
<u>Salon</u>				
Tom Griswold	14	367.5	7	7
Marci James	14	355.5	3	1
Jim Oliphant	14	346.5	3	2
Mark Fox	14	340.5	2	1
Lynda Hintz	14	340.0	2	5
David Hintz	14	339.5	1	3
Chris Thomas	12	304.8	3	3
Rich Rosania	12	304.5	4	5
Emery Thomas	12	297.0	2	4
Steve Potashner	10	263.5	5	4
Frank James	11	259.5		
Lee Wilcox	10	247.0	1	1
Lily Vogelpohl	10	233.3		1
Jim Brodey	10	198.0	5	1
Laura Reinwald	6	139.5		1
Mark Bamberger	4	105.0	1	2
Alex Logoyke		0.0		
Don Hight		0.0		
Stan Wisniowski		0.0		