

NOVEMBER 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. [COPS]



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.
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!)			*Note: Special Dates for These Events **Unless otherwise noted
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				

SIX NEW COPS MEMBERS!

Amazingly, there are **SIX** new members! Luella and George Landis of Cromwell, Martin Krucinski of Glastonbury, Matt Johnson of Newington, Nick Vennaro of West Hartford, Andrew Schachter of West Hartford, and Leslie Caromile of Newington all just joined COPS. **Welcome to all of you from everyone in COPS!** Members: as soon as you have a chance, please introduce yourself to each of them and help make them feel welcome.

NEW MEMBERSHIP RAFFLE!

We will be holding a raffle to encourage gaining more 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

1) November's Competition Specified Topic is "Intentional Camera Movement". This topic is a direct followup to the fascinating March 24th General Meeting presentation "Camera Movement" by Stephanie Johnson. Please submit your images no later than November 9th at 11:30pm. The Competition Meeting will be conducted via Zoom, and is scheduled for November 17th at 7:15pm.

2) 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.

3) 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.

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

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/>

IN-PERSON WORKSHOP MEETING: NOVEMBER 10th

Our November workshop agenda 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.

Much of what we currently see in photographic styles today has been established by iconic photographers, both past and present, in terms of technique and vision. Stan will examine how habitual behaviors can sometimes cramp our own style. We can all learn a lot by examining the work of some of the masters.

Note- this presentation is a good source of inspiration for our April competition Specified Topic. The purpose of the Specified Topics competition type is an attempt to introduce new subjects, learn new techniques, break out of your comfort zone and expand your knowledge. Give it a try if you haven't already.

Second, all Members were asked to share your favorite places and/or events to photograph in Connecticut. As a result, several Members volunteered to provide insights into some interesting locations. This will include information about the location, the best time to go (time of day/year), tips on lenses/equipment (if appropriate), the website (if applicable), etc. They will support their recommendations by showing a few of their own images to illustrate the photographic opportunities.

Join us in person on November 10 at **7:15 PM** at the First Baptist Church, 90 North Main Street, West Hartford, and come ahead of that for refreshments and socializing. Hopefully, you will come and have a chance to meet some of our new Members.

PROGRAM MEETING: NOVEMBER 24th

Our speaker for November's Program Meeting is Doug Johnson of Colorado. He will be providing a ZOOM Presentation: "A Foundation for the Macro World". Macro photography exposes a world largely unseen by the naked eye and allows us to discover new visual adventures each time we shoot. In this presentation Doug will discuss all the tools, techniques and workflow to get close-up and capture the other worldly moments when little things get big!

Doug is a highly respected professional photographer and educator, always sharing the art of photography with his students and colleagues. He has conducted over 150 workshops in some of our world's most beautiful locations: in the flower fields of Namaqualand, South Africa, the vibrant city of Havana, Cuba, and our country's world-class national parks!

For more than twenty years, Doug has educated hundreds of students from around the world in the technical and aesthetics of photography through Rocky Mountain School of Photography programs and workshops.

He has taught alongside some of the most respected educators in the field including Alison Shaw and Freeman Patterson, as well as good friends; Neil Chaput de Saintonge, Eileen Rafferty, Elizabeth Stone, Tony Rizutto, and Tim Cooper. He believes education and truth are the "means to the end" and that good old-fashioned love, peace, and fun are the vehicles we use to navigate through our journey.

Doug's lifelong passion for teaching the technical and aesthetics of photography is reflected in the long-term relationships he shares with his students and peers.

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)

PERSONAL GALLERIES **[an introduction from Steve Potashner]**

The COPS Main Website offers an excellent opportunity to display ‘Personal Galleries’ of members’ images. Each gallery is similar to a mini portfolio of images chosen by the participating member, and can contain up to 20 images (minimum of 6). Some or all of the images may be changed on a regular basis. These galleries present an opportunity for members who do not compete regularly, and those who do, to share examples of their best images with fellow club members and the general public.

Examples of Personal Galleries can be found here <https://charteroakphoto.org/personal-galleries/>

If you have not yet made a Personal Gallery and are interested in displaying one, please select your images and resize them as indicated below. Then, send me (Steve Potashner) an email (sjpotashner@sbcglobal.net) stating that (1) you “... would like to display images in a Personal Gallery on the COPS Main Website” and (2) attach your images to the message. We all look forward to seeing your Gallery.

If you already have a Personal Gallery, you may replace some or all of your gallery images, or enlarge your gallery (maximum of 20 images), at any time. To do so, send an email message to me (sjpotashner@sbcglobal.net) and (1) identify any images which should be deleted from your current gallery. If you want to enlarge your gallery, state that in the message. (2) Attach the new images to the message. New images should be sized as indicated below.

Image size: Longest dimension = 1440 px, resolution = up to 300 dpi, file type = .jpg, file size < 2 MB.

Remember, some email apps reduce the size of images attached to email messages, so set your email app to send full size images.

MONTHLY COMPETITION STANDINGS AS OF OCTOBER 2025

2025-2026 YTD Results

Name	Total # of Images Using the Highest 2 Scoring Images	Total Points Using the Highest 2 Scoring Images	1st Prize	Mention
<u>Masters</u>				
Ira Scheinerman	2	57.0	2	0
Cindy Gosselin	2	54.0	0	1
Chris Quallen	2	54.0	1	2
Stan Tetrault	2	53.0	1	0
Paula Fink	2	52.5	1	0
Mark Teitelbaum	2	52.0	1	0
Tom Griswold	2	51.0	1	1
Pam Hastings	1	26.5	0	0
Steve Silk	0	0.0	0	0
<u>Salon</u>				
Mark Bamberger	2	55.5	1	0
Steve Potashner	2	53.5	2	0
Rich Rosania	2	52.5	1	1
Jim Brodey	2	52.5	0	0
Laura Reinwald	2	50.5	0	1
Lynda Hintz	2	50.0	0	0
David Hintz	2	50.0	0	0
Emery Thomas	2	50.0	0	2
Marci James	2	49.5	0	0
Jim Oliphant	2	47.5	0	1
Chris Thomas	2	47.5	0	0
Mark Fox	2	47.0	0	0
Frank James	2	46.5	0	0
Lee Wilcox	0	0.0	0	0
Lily Vogelpohl	0	0.0	0	0