



SEPTEMBER 2023

Sept 3rd is the LAST DAY to get your tickets for the OCC ANNUAL BANQUET!

**Monday, September 11, 6:30 pm:
SIG Share & Town Hall Meeting
In Person meeting**

You are cordially invited to the OCC

Annual Meeting & Social Gathering

Sunday, Sept 17th from 1:00p - 4:00p

Heller Hall
21 E Plant St., Winter Garden FL 34787

Tickets are available Aug 1 - Sept 3 and must be purchased in advance.

Please visit the Annual Banquet page on the OCC website for purchasing info.

Join us for a delicious meal, delightful fellowship, and fun raffle prizes as we celebrate YOU, our talented members, and your achievements during this past year. Competition results will be presented, new board members will be introduced, and a photo gallery will showcase our members' work.

Family and friends are welcome and encouraged to attend!

Dress code is smart casual.

The first part of our meeting on September 11th will be our annual Town Hall Meeting. This will be when current club members can vote for the board position nominees. **Members will also have an opportunity to voice their suggestions and any concerns they may have for the club.**

The second part of our meeting will be a SIG (Special Interest Groups) showcase. Each SIG group will provide a few of their member's pictures from this past year to be shared with the club. They will also share what they have been up to throughout the year such as their projects, field trips, etc.

SIG groups are special interest groups that focus on specific genres of photography. Any current member can join at any time. Our current groups include abstract, nature, landscapes & people.

SIG members should send their pictures to programs@orlandocameraclub.com by Friday, Sept. 8. Please size the pictures to 2000 pixels on the longest side, 72 dpi.

Also at this meeting, club members can drop off their prints for the banquet. Drop off your accepted images to be included in the gallery exhibit during the Annual Banquet at Heller Hall.

If you are not able to bring your final product to the September 11th meeting, make arrangements to drop off your artwork with Stephanie Drake (presidentelectorlandocameraclub.com) or Deborah Seaman (president@orlandocameraclub.com) no later than September 14th.

cont. on page 2

Program Calendar 2022-2023

- Sept 4 SIG Meeting - Zoom
- Sept 11 Formal Competition
- Sept 17 Annual Meeting & Social Gathering
- Sept 18 **No Board Meeting this month**
- Sept 25 No Meeting due to Banquet
- Oct 2 SIG Meeting -Zoom
- Oct 9 Kathleen Clemmons Flower Photography -Zoom

2 Sig Meeting
F3C Print Dates

3 Eligible Images for
Annual Awards

4 F3C

5 Beautiful
Bokeh by
Deborah Seaman



Sept 4th, Monday 6:30 pm: SIG (Special Interest Group): Zoom Meeting : All Members Invited

Join us on Zoom as we explore images, techniques, and processing as well as get to know other members of OCC! All levels of photography are welcome, and any current OCC member can join a SIG at any time!

Each SIG (Special Interest Group) focuses on one of these different photographic genres, Nature, Landscape, Abstract, or People.

SIGs also get together for group field trips! The SIGs are full of great people getting together to share their knowledge and experiences with photography and to have fun!

We meet via Zoom on the first Monday of the month. Current members of OCC can join any time, just **register in advance!!**

https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlpdeuqrDwjHNWUpAqQdhOjrr_hZQz4DJV
After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

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If you haven't submitted your images for the Heller Hall exhibit here's how:
Send an email to PresidentElect@OrlandoCameraClub.com with the subject "Heller Hall Exhibit" and include a thumbnail of your image, the title of your image, and how you would like your name printed on the card that will be displayed next to your image.

You may enter up to two images, but please note that due to available space, we may only be able to accept one. Those accepted will be notified by September 7th. Accepted work must be printed no larger than 16x20 and mounted on a foam core board no larger than 16x20. You may print smaller to allow for framing, but please mount the image to a 16x20 board. We will supply self-stick cardboard easel backs to display your work in an upright, easy-to-view position.

For more information about our annual banquet and to purchase tickets, please visit the Annual Banquet page in the Member Area of our website, www.orlandocameraclub.com.



Tuesday, August 15th, 2023 through Sunday, September 10th, 2023 2023 3rd Triannual - Print: Accepting Submissions (In Progress)
Monday, September 18th, 2023 2023 3rd Triannual - Print: Delivery Deadline (In Progress)
Wednesday, September 27th, 2023, 12:04 PM to 7:00 PM 2023 3rd Triannual - Print: Judging
Saturday, September 30th, 2023 2023 3rd Triannual - Print: Winner Announcements
Sunday, October 1st, 2023 through Tuesday, October 10th, 2023 2023 Year-End - Digital: Judging
Saturday, October 14th, 2023 2023 Year-End - Digital: Winner Announcements
Monday, October 23rd, 2023 2023 Year-End - Print: Delivery Deadline
Monday, October 30th, 2023, 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM 2023 Year-End - Print: Judging
Friday, November 3rd, 2023 2023 Year-End - Print: Winner Announcements

IMPORTANT NOTE ON COMPETITION ENTRIES
Images created by text-to-image Artificial Intelligence (AI) are not allowed. Neither is clip art, stock photos, etc. Everything in the image must be from photographs taken by the maker.

2023-2024 OCC Board Member Nominees

Board Position	Nominee
President	Stephanie Drake
President Elect	Open
Vice President	Open
Director of Competitions	Misty Bozzacco
Secretary	Laura Howell
Treasurer/F3C Liaison	George Stedronsky
Sponsorship Chair	Brian Miller
Director At Large	Jack Berkstresser
Librarian/Community Service	Carol Winardi
Programs and Events	Betty Walden
Programs and Events	Co-Host Donna King
Judging	Randy Seaman
Audio Visual	Mike Vincent
Communications	Kathy Bargar
Director of Membership	Mary Wood
Field Trips	Rita Ritner
Social Media	Shara Abel
Education	Annette Khaled
Parliamentarian	Mike Vincent
IT Director	Pat Husband
Past President (2022-2023)	- Deborah Seaman
Past President (2021-2022)	- Pat Husband
Past President (2020-2021)	- Ansa du Toit



Below are the eligible images for this years Annual Competition. Awards will be given at our Annual Meeting & Social Gathering. So get your tickets TODAY!!

Table with 4 columns: Name, Title, Name, Title. Rows are categorized by COLOR A, COLOR B, CREATIVE, and MONOCHROME.



Congratulations to our members who won ribbons in the FCCC 3rd Triannual Digital Competition

2023 3rd Triannual Digital Color

- White ribbon 16.67 The Busker Randy Seaman
- White ribbon 16.67 The Fisherman Randy Seaman
- Yellow ribbon 16.33 1st Day at the Beach Betty Walden



The Busker by Randy Seaman



The Fisherman by Randy Seaman

2023 3rd Triannual Digital Creative

- White ribbon 16.33 Mysterious Waterfall Shara Abel
- Yellow ribbon 15.67 Garden Mist Deborah Seaman

2023 3rd Triannual Digital Interpretive

- White ribbon 17.00 Fall Leaf Pattern Laura Howell
- White ribbon 17.00 Flying Home Shara Abel
- White ribbon 17.00 Leaf Series #2 Laura Howell
- Yellow ribbon 16.67 Morning Glow-3 Betty Walden



First Day at the Beach by Betty Walden



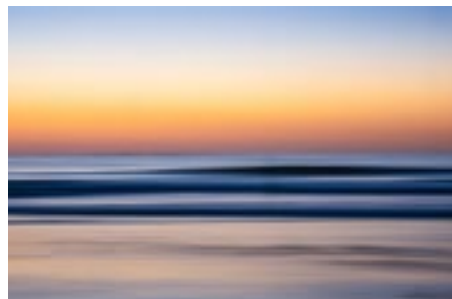
Mysterious Waterfall by Shara Abel



Garden Mist by Deborah Seaman



Leaf Series 2 by Laura Howell



Morning Glow-3 by Betty Walden



Fall Leaf Pattern by Laura Howell



THROUGH MY LENS

Beautiful Bokeh

By Deborah Seaman, OCC President



I love the soft hazy bubbles of a good bokeh background. It adds depth and a dreamy feel to an image. The word itself comes from the Japanese word boke (ボケ), which means "blur" or "haze", or boke-aji, the "blur quality." Bokeh is pronounced BOH-KAY or BOH-kay.

But what is Bokeh? It is defined as "the effect of a soft out-of-focus background that you get when shooting a subject, using a fast lens, at the widest aperture, such as f/2.8 or wider." Simply, bokeh is the pleasing or aesthetic quality of out-of-focus blur in a photograph.

"If you are out there shooting, things will happen for you. If you're not out there, you'll only hear about it."

– Jay Maisel

To achieve bokeh in an image, a fast lens is required—the faster the better. A lens with at least an f/2.8 aperture, with faster apertures of f/2, f/1.8 or f/1.4 being ideal. Although bokeh is actually a characteristic of a photograph, the lens used determines the shape and size of the visible bokeh. Usually seen more in highlights, bokeh is affected by the shape of the diaphragm blades (the aperture) of the lens. A lens with more circular shaped blades will have rounder, softer orbs of out-of-focus highlights, whereas a lens with an aperture that is more hexagonal in shape will reflect that shape in the highlights. Don't worry if you don't own a very fast lens. By increasing the distance between the background and your subject, you can see bokeh in

images that are shot at smaller apertures like f/8.

To increase the likelihood of creating visible bokeh in your photographs, increase the distance between the subject and the background. Do this by decreasing the distance between the camera and subject. The shallower the depth-of-field, or the further away the background is, the more out-of-focus it will be. Highlights hitting the background will show more visible bokeh too, so if you're using a backlight, side light or a hair light, the bokeh may be more pleasing to the eye.

Shoot with the lens wide open, using Aperture Priority or Manual. Manual lets you choose both aperture and shutter speed, whereas Aperture Priority allows you to choose the f/stop while the camera chooses the appropriate shutter speed for the exposure.

Try creating bokeh in close-up portraits. Macro images of flowers and other natural subjects show off bokeh well in the image. An often-photographed subject with bokeh is a grouping of holiday lights or other highly reflective objects. When purposely photographed out-of-focus, these normally harsh or bright objects become soft, pastel, diffused orbs of glowing light.

Bokeh can add softness to an otherwise brightly lit photograph. Using this technique to separate your subject from the background can also allow you to utilize a not-so-photogenic background in your image—but because of its diffused blur, it helps to "highlight" the subject, not detract from it.

Add something magical to your images, try some bokeh.

Happy shooting.

*Welcome
New Members*

Jane Maciejewski
Janet Scalise



October 30 - November, 2023

The Photoshop Virtual Summit 5

An amazing 5 days of FREE practical training from world-class Photoshop experts

This online-only Summit will run the same as our past events: 5 days, 20 instructors teaching 40 classes - that you can watch for FREE. The instructor roster includes all your favorites from past Summits:

Aaron Nace, Anthony Morganti, Ben Willmore, Bert Monroy, Blake Rudis, Colin Smith, Corey Barker, Daniel Gregory, Glyn Dewis, Jesús Ramirez, Khara Plicanic, Kirk Nelson, Kristina Sherk, Lisa Carney, Matt Kloskowski, Nicole Young, Sebastian Michaels, Thera Jackson, Tim Grey...and me :). That list includes best-selling authors, top YouTube instructors, MAX Masters, and members of the Photoshop Hall of Fame!

Once again this year, we'll be offering the opportunity to watch all the classes for free. Once a class is released, you'll have 48 hours to watch (and rewatch) the class for free. After 48 hours, the classes get archived to the VIP Member area (an optional purchase that gives you lifetime access to watch the classes).

You can get all the details and sign up by CLICKING THIS LINK
https://www.pssummit.com/?r_done=1



EMBRACE THE FUTURE OF CREATIVITY

PHOTOSHOP WORLD 2023

PHOTOSHOP PHOTOGRAPHY LIGHTROOM & BEYOND

Registration for Photoshop World 2023 is now open! Get ready for 3 thrilling days—learn to craft stunning light, practice using AI on your images, and improve your photography vision along with the pros. Mark your calendar and secure your spot!

Sept. 5-7 | Online

REGISTER NOW

SPEAKERS THAT INSPIRE!

Our lineup includes a hand-picked team of creators, leaders, and pros who will help you reach your goals!

Scott Kelby's Worldwide PHOTO WALK

OCTOBER 7, 2023

Calling All Walk Leaders

Scott Kelby's Worldwide Photo Walk® is back for 2023!

If you're interested in leading a walk this year, the time is now. Use the button below to sign up to become a walk leader and get started in setting up your walk.

Attention Walkers - Mark October 7th, 2023 on your calendars as we wait for the walk leaders to get their walks set up. We will notify everyone soon when we are ready for walkers to sign up for their walks.



OCC COMPETITIONS

Sept 4th through Sept 29th, 2023: Entries open for the Formal Competition: The theme is "Nature"

Take the challenge & join in the competition! Gather your best images and send them in for the "Nature" competition! Entries are due by [11:59 pm](#) on Friday, **9/29/23**.

Competitions are a great way to improve your photography skills! Learn by listening to the judge's critiques as well as seeing the different ideas and styles of photography from fellow members!

Remember only images that are totally the work of the individual photographer may be submitted.

For a complete set of the rules, more information and to submit your entries visit the competition area of our website. Good luck!

(All entries will be shown and the results announced at our 10/9/23 Zoom meeting.)



The Informal Challenge for September is "Rust & Cars/Trucks"

Monthly challenges are great ways to participate in low-pressure competitions. If you are new to competitions it is a wonderful way to get your "feet wet"!

Informal Challenges are open for submission on the 1st through the 14th day of the month. Voting runs from the 15th through the 22nd. Winners will be announced after the competition closes.

You can enter your images or find more information about our Informal & Formal competitions on our website.





7 Tips for Autumn Macro

© 2021; Jeff Parker / ExploreinFocus.com

1) **Abstract in autumn.**

Macro's great for creating abstract art, and autumn leaves make one of the best subjects for making that happen – not simply because of the character of their veins and edges (*as you'd expect*) but also for the interesting manner in which their colors appear. As the seasons change and chlorophyll vacates it results in leaves with interesting transitional patterns in varying shades of yellow, orange, and green. These three are analogous colors, which is icing on the cake when it comes to creating the perfect abstract motif!

2) **Parallel pleases.**

Maximize your depth of field by placing your camera on a parallel plane with your subject. Be sure to square the sensor to the subject. This is especially important when you want to accomplish something such as getting both of a butterfly's wings in focus. (*By the way: in many locales the fluttering insects are just as abundant in fall as they are in springtime—in some places even more so!*)

3) **Get intimate.**

While your macro lens gets you up-close and personal, it's up to you to communicate something special about your subject. Think about why it caught your eye in the first place, and how to infuse your image with that. Changing your perspective—seeing it from a different angle, under slightly changed lighting, or with something else in the background (*so that maybe even the color behind your subject would be different*)—can make a big difference when it comes to highlighting the unique essence that “spoke” to you.

4) **Add light.**

The closer your lens is to the subject, the less light will be available. Since we usually stop down to maximize depth of field, the loss of light puts a serious damper on your shutter speed. To compensate, raise that ISO and/or use flash. I also often use a flashlight when working in macro. I like this option because it allows me to pinpoint exactly where I need light—even lighting my subject from behind if I desire.

5) **Focus with your feet.**

While most say a tripod is a macro must, try telling that to the butterfly you're trying to get in focus before it flutters away! In such situations, rather than trying to autofocus, use manual focus, shooting in high-speed burst mode, while—ever so slightly—moving the camera (*and your body*) forward and backward until you achieve focus.

6) **Eliminate movement.**

Not only is the subject magnified with macro, but so too is every mistake you make. Windy days and macro don't usually mix, but if you have no other choice, be sure to bring along something to block the wind for a bit (*a piece of cardboard can do wonders*). Clothes pins and other such clamps also come in handy to stabilize spindly subjects such as a blade of grass heavy with seed.

7) **Composition & color count.**

Minutiae can mesmerize when working in macro, often causing us to hone in our subject without considering its surroundings. But, just as with any other image, composition counts. So too does color. If you have a choice, give your subject a background comprised of a complementary or analogous color. In the fall, you'll have an easier time finding analogous colors.



Award-winning naturalist photographer, Jeff Parker, leads friendly & informative photo tours & workshops focused on the flora & fauna of North, Central, & South America.

Call (512) 378-3355 ~ Or ~
Click www.ExploreinFocus.com

