



**SOUTH JERSEY
CAMERA CLUB**

NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2024

Dawn Of A New Season

New River Gorge Bridge by Dwayne Botnick

Welcome to the 2024-25 Season!

If you are like me, you must be asking “where did summer go”. Vacations, quality time with family & friends, home projects and hopefully some photography.

The board has been busy teeing up a robust & exciting line up of workshops, presentations, field trips and a few surprises. Oh, we also launched a completely new system that now encompasses the club's website, membership, challenges, calendar & all events. Hopefully, you were able to attend one of the Zoom training sessions or watched the **recording**.

One of the critical goals of the new system & website is having everything the club members need in one location with one login to provide a better experience while being user friendly. Delivering accurate & timely information has always been important and this will support the club moving forward. The old saying of “crawling before you walk” is very true for all of us when learning a new system and we will walk together this season.

Moving forward, you will notice an overall theme of “go to the website to learn more, register or how-to” with numerous links. You can now manage/view all aspects of your membership by selecting “My Account” from the website menu when logged in.

Please join me in welcoming our newest club members: Anthony D’Aquino, Brian Griswold, Joan Kerrigan, Marie Sheraden and Ronald Shultz.

Dwayne Botnick – SJCC President

Upcoming Events & Important Dates

9/7 – Workshop: Matting, Mounting & Framing

@ Medford Leas

9/10 – MPUG on Zoom

9/12 – Presentation: Keeping Your

Photography Fresh on Zoom

9/17 – Challenge Night @ Medford Leas

9/20 – Closing Medford Special Prints

9/28 – Field Trip Popcorn Zoo

**More info & register for events from
the [CALENDAR](#)**

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PRESENTATION – Zoom

Keeping Your Photography Fresh – by Bert Sirkin

Thursday September 12 at 7 PM – Judged by Richard Lewis

Learn to recognize and eliminate stagnation in your photography. Over time, most photographers naturally develop a unique style or rhythm with their photography. It's where we feel most comfortable.

This presentation is all about using what we've learned so far and exploring the endless possibilities to add fresh sparks to our creativity. We'll dive into some exciting techniques to breathe new life into our images and discover fresh perspectives. Together, we'll explore how to stay inspired and keep growing in our photographic journey!

The topics we cover are:

The Signs of Stagnation
Obstacles to Evolution
New Subjects
Things to Think About
Getting Feedback
Putting it all together

Evolution is the Cure for Stagnation
Freshness Matters!
New Techniques
Getting Inspiration
Continuous Learning

Bio

Bert Sirkin has been a professional photographer and educator for over 40 years. He helps people understand their cameras and editing software in simple English. He teaches various photography topics, Lightroom and Photoshop. Bert has put all of his expertise in our online courses. He wants to help you produce the very best pictures you can - pictures that you will be proud to show.

Website: [Photo Bert](http://PhotoBert.com)

SJCC website detail:

- View detail on all [Presentations](#) and their [Calendar](#) dates.
- [ZOOM LINK](#)

CHALLENGE NIGHT – In person Medford Leas

Tuesday September 17 at 7 PM – Judged by Richard Lewis

Each monthly challenge night will have a digital assigned topic and digital open.

Digital Assigned Topic: Patterns in Nature – Highlight shapes, textures, lines and forms as they occur in the natural world.

Digital Open

SJCC website detail:

- Log in, select “Challenges” from the top menu then select “Submit Images to a Challenge”.
- View detail on all [Challenges](#).
- View [Calendar](#) to see when challenges open & close.
- Need directions to Medford Leas? Go to website, click on “Organization” on top menu then select “[Contact Us](#)”.



WORKSHOP – Medford Leas, Holly Room **Mounting, Matting & Framing, led by Bonnie Rovere** **Saturday September 7 at 10 AM**

Want your photographs to be presented in a professional manner? This workshop will help you do that. You will learn how to cut your own mats, various ways to mount photos, and how to present a photo for an exhibition. This presentation is all about using what we've learned so far and exploring the endless possibilities to add fresh sparks to our creativity. We'll dive into some exciting techniques to breathe new life into our images and discover fresh perspectives. Together, we'll explore how to stay inspired and keep growing in our photographic journey!

You must register for this workshop on our website:

- Login and click on the [Calendar](#). Navigate to date of workshop 9/7, then click on the event. This will bring you to the event page, at the bottom click on “Registration Information” and follow the short instructions.
- Need directions to Medford Leas? Go to website, click on “Organization” on top menu then select “[Contact Us](#)”.

FIELD TRIP– Popcorn Zoo Animal Refuge **Saturday September 28 at 11 AM**

Location: 1 Humane Way, Forked River, NJ

[Facebook Link](#)

This is a small nonprofit 7-acre animal refuge and sanctuary with a wide range of domestic, exotic and farm animals and birds. We will meet at the zoo at 11am. Cost is \$10/\$5 senior.

You must register for this workshop on our website:

- Login and click on the [Calendar](#). Navigate to date of field trip 9/28, then click on the event. This will bring you to the event page, at the bottom click on “Registration Information” and follow the short instructions.

Special Print Event for Medford Leas **Closing for Digital Submission Friday September 20**

Long standing agreement with Medford Leas has been to provide framed prints for display throughout the main building. This has not been done since before COVID and along with the recent renovations, we have been asked to restart this tradition.

The first area which has been completely renovated is the health restricted access areas. We had 16 framed prints hanging in this area which we now need to replace. To accomplish this, we have created a print special event challenge for club members to submit up to 2 images. *The digital submission dates and printed image date for this is very tight due to getting details from Medford Leas and getting everyone acquainted with our new website.*

SJCC website detail:

- Link to submit your images: [SJCC Medford Leas Submit Image](#)
Click on the "Select" button for "Special Print: Medford Leas Display"



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MPUG – via Zoom

Mobile Photography User Group hoisted by Jeff Feeny

Tuesday September 10 at 10 AM

Sad that summer is coming to an end. September's themes are "Rusty", "Graffiti" and "Art or School Supplies". Lots to choose from so expect to see LOTS of participation and images.

Be sure to email your images by Monday evening to Jeff at: foneartstudio@icloud.com

[MPUG ZOOM Link](#)

DRONE User Group – via Zoom

Hoisted by Leo Pelletier

Meets Every Other Month - see [Calendar](#) for schedule

Do you own a drone? Do you want to own a drone? Do you just think drones are cool and want to learn more about them? Then join the latest South Jersey Camera Club user group for drone enthusiasts. This group meets on a regular basis to learn more about:

- Drone flying tips and tricks.
- How to take awesome aerial photographs with your drone.
- Drone flying outings.

Website Link: [Drone User Group](#)

SNAPSHOTS – Tripod Maintenance

Many of us have invested in a good quality tripod... or two or three!

Recently one of my carbon fiber tripod leg sections became locked when fully extended. I had recently been shooting from the beach in wind, sand, rain and sea spray. And of course, I didn't clean the tripod when I was done. Lots of excuses!

Here are a couple of good YouTube videos on tripod maintenance:

[Really Right Stuff](#)

[Paul Thomson Photography](#)

[Benro Tripod Margaret Soraya](#)

Disclaimer: Check your tripod manufactures site for specific maintenance details.



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Newsletter FYI

In keeping with the new website and integration, the look of this newsletter is changing to allow a format that can pull detail directly from the website. Resulting in less manual work and more timely publication.

This will be an active project this fall. If you have an ideas on future content of both the website and newsletter, please do not hesitate to email us.

Contact Us: info@sjcameraclub.org

Useful Links

[SJCC Website](#)

[Facebook Members Lounge](#) (private group)

[Flickr Gallery](#)

[FAA Recreational Drone Safety Test \(TRUST\)](#)

[B&H Event Space Free Seminars](#)

The fine print...

Zoom participants: If you are using your smartphone, sign in with the Zoom app and use the appropriate meeting ID and Password.

IMPORTANT: Our presentation meetings are recorded for members to review. The exception is when presenters do not want their presentation recorded. Links are posted in the SJCC Members Lounge Facebook group. Due to their file size, videos may be deleted after 30 days to make sure our drive has room on it. Also, please do not download them or share the links. All presentations are the intellectual property of the presenters. They allow us to record them if the videos are only viewed by club members. Thanks for your cooperation and understanding.



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